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THE Gloss says: "I lately saw a very shabby set of blistered-painted wood bedroom furniture turned into a handsome suite of pale blue with Aspinall's Enamel."

ASPINAL'S ENAMEL

# The People.

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

ONE PENNY. [Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

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## LATEST TELEGRAMS.

### THE LATE BISMARCK CRISIS. Count von Waldersee's Position.

BERLIN, March 21.—The crisis as regards the position of Count von Waldersee still continues. He has asked the Emperor to relieve him of his post of chief of the staff, and if his request is granted he will probably be appointed to the command of the Tenth Army Corps, as was the elevation of General Caprivi to the chancellorship of the empire. Among those thought likely to succeed to the post of chief of the staff, mention is made of Count von Haeseler, quartermaster-general, and Lieutenant-General Count von Schlieffen II. von Holleben.

It is reported that Count Herbert Bismarck, tendering his resignation, said to the Emperor: "I wish to stand or fall with my father." His Majesty replied, "That is all very well, but I should have thought you would stand or fall with me." He will probably retain office, but if not he may be succeeded by Count von Lerchenfeld, Koerber, the Bavarian Minister Plenipotentiary in Berlin.

### EXECUTION BY ELECTRICITY.

ALBANY (New York), March 22.—The Court of Appeals has affirmed the constitutionality of the law passed by the New York State Legislature for executing criminals by electricity. This ends the litigation over the case of Kemmler, the murderer, who was sentenced to death by electricity. Several appeals have been made by Kemmler's lawyers, who held that the new law was unconstitutional, and as there are five other murderers awaiting sentence under the same law, the case has attracted widespread attention. Kemmler's execution will be at an early date. The same law prohibits newspapers from publishing any account of executions under the new Act; but some of the leading journals of the country have editorially expressed their determination to defy the law, and promise their readers full and graphic accounts of Kemmler's and all other executions by electricity.

### EXTRAORDINARY SUICIDE.

MARSHFIELD, March 21.—The suicide is announced of M. Paul Michel Levy, a gentleman well-known in the Paris Bourse, who left five months ago for South America, and has shot himself on the return journey on board the steamer Provence. M. Levy, who had quarrelled with his brother with whom he was in partnership, entered upon various speculative operations which failed, and consequently resolved to seek his fortune in South America. He sold his furniture and picture gallery in Paris, and embarked with his wife and two children on the Paris Bourse. Together with his legitimate wife he took out with him a demi-mondaine of whom he was passionately enamoured. But perhaps the most singular feature in this ménage was the presence of a gentleman to whom the demi-mondaine was attached, and whose travelling expenses she paid out of the money furnished by M. Levy. The whole party arrived at Buenos Ayres, and stayed at the same hotel, but shortly after the arrival M. Levy, resenting the position in which his wife and children were placed, left the hotel to live alone with her children. As M. Levy did not succeed in his business schemes, he abandoned his sick wife and her two children, and re-embarked for France, accompanied by his mistress and her friend. On board ship, frequent quarrels occurred between them, and life became unbearable to him. On Sunday last, while the ship was passing the Straits of Gibraltar, M. Levy locked himself in his cabin and shot himself on the temple with a revolver. The body was thrown overboard.

### A JUVENILE TRAGEDY.

JOULET (Illinois), March 21.—This town was yesterday the scene of a shocking juvenile tragedy. Tommy Wineman, a boy of 12, had a slight quarrel with another little boy of 11 about a game of marbles, and in a fit of passion he shot his little playmate dead with a pistol.

### A MADMAN'S DISCIPLES.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 21.—A mad preacher, named Erickson, has delivered a prophecy that San Francisco, Oakland (California), and New York will be destroyed by earthquake on April 14th. His believers, who are quite numerous, are becoming alarmed as the date for the fulfilment of the prophecy approaches, and are removing to the hills. Daily prayer meetings are being held to avert the disaster, and many of Erickson's credulous followers are disposing of their goods at an alarming sacrifice. Yesterday a man sold a fine property, assessed at 10,000 dollars, for 5,000 dollars, and the furniture of a nine-roomed house for 100 dollars. Another gave away several loads of wood, which he was unable to take with him.

### A NIMBLE MONOGAMIST.

RICHLAND (West Virginia), March 22.—Jacob Refner, a prosperous farmer in this neighbourhood, who is ninety years of age, walked on Tuesday last a distance of twenty miles to the home of a widow, named Mrs. Ray. He introduced himself to her, proposed marriage, and within half an hour was accepted. He then walked with her to this town, a distance of six miles, and the couple were married.

### FLOODS IN THE UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, March 22.—At Johnstown, Pennsylvania, the scene of the terrible flood last summer, heavy rains have fallen during the last few days, melting the snow and causing the river to rise to an alarming extent. Several bridges have been washed away, and the inhabitants of the low-lying lands are leaving their homes for places of safety.

### THE POPLAR MURDER.

At the Thames Police Court on Saturday Henry Garrod, alias Ephraim Lamb, 57, a commercial traveller, of 41, Bygrove-street, Poplar, was again brought up on the charge of murdering his daughter, Daisy Garrod, aged 7 years, by cutting her throat with a razor. On the application of the Treasury, Mr. Lushington further remanded the accused.

## FRIDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

Lord Salisbury and the Parnell Commission.

Lord SALISBURY moved: "That the report of the commissioners appointed under the Act 51 and 52 Vic. chap. 35, having been presented to Parliament, the House adopts the report, and thanks the commissioners for their just and impartial conduct in the matter referred to them, and orders that the report be entered upon the journals of the House." His lordship said to the first part of the resolution he did not anticipate any opposition, as every one recognised the zeal and impartiality with which the distinguished commissioners performed the task imposed on them. The report was an exhaustive one, and gave a complete view of an episode in the history of Ireland which was new to those who had not special facilities for knowledge. There were some subjects brought under notice by the report which were new to him (the noble marquis), and he took this opportunity of referring to the evidence of Mr. William O'Brien with regard to his language towards Earl Spencer when Viceroy of Ireland. Mr. William O'Brien distinguished himself by the violence of his language towards Earl Spencer when Viceroy and the then Chief Secretary for Ireland. When before the commissioners Mr. O'Brien was asked whether he still held the language which he had written and spoken about Earl Spencer and his subordinates, and he took occasion to say that he found that he and those acting with him were wrong with regard to Earl Spencer, but that they were right with regard to his subordinates. Now this, in his lordship's opinion, was a most atrocious imputation on the noble earl—one of the foulest which had been cast upon him—for it was suggested that he would be able to put on the shoulders of his constitutional advisers and subordinates the defamations which, in the first instance, were levelled against himself. (Cheers.) He mentioned this in order to give the noble lord an opportunity of saying that whatever took place in Ireland during the time that he was Viceroy he, and not the Chief Secretary and his subordinates were responsible. (Hear, hear.) This was one of the incidents showing the extreme value of the report, and he had no intention of quoting further on this point. The noble lord, after referring to the absence of any amendment to the motion, said the report showed that the counts the defendants were found not guilty, but on other they were found guilty. It appeared from the evidence that the Irish Parliamentary party were prepared to make use of the crime committed by the non-Parliamentary party, though they themselves were free from any specific implication in any one of the individual crimes committed. There were two parties in Ireland—the Parliamentary party making use of constitutional means of agitation to attain their ends, and a party of violence and murder. The Parliamentary party was charged with crime, but with complicity in crime, which enabled the Parliamentary party to go forward or restrain criminality as their political necessities required. As had been well described, the Parliamentary party had their hands on the throttle valve of crime. (Hear, hear.) When they liked crime went forward, but when they chose crime was retarded, and he was unable to admit that there was no tacit connection between bodies connected such as these. After referring specifically to the findings of the commissioners, his lordship said it had been complained that in making these charges they were dealing with the characters of individuals; but his lordship said the interest in the decisions lay not in the fact that individuals had been guilty, but that the evidence indicated the spirit which animated a body of men who, if successful, would bore long be the undisputed rulers of Ireland. (Hear, hear.) These were the men to whom it was proposed to hand over all that was Protestant, and almost all that was industrious and flourishing, and, above all, all that section of the community which through good and through evil report had clung to England. (Ministerial cheers.) The immorality which this report laid bare indicated the spirit of the future governors of Ireland. When the amendment was going on they might have prophesied from the Government of George Washington what his future Government would have been; that he would have carried, as he did, into the Council Chamber and the Council House the same high spirit of integrity which distinguished him in the field; but the same rule applied in the other direction, and if political objects were systematically pursued by means which led to crime and murder, they would know that that spirit which prompted those things would animate the men from whom the future government of Ireland would be drawn, and they would know beforehand the fate of those whom they were handing over in a body—men whom they were bound to honour and preserve. This report of the commissioners increased the responsibility of any Government handing over to men engaged in a criminal conspiracy the lives of those who, through good and ill report, had stood by England. (Loud Ministerial cheers.) Lord SALISBURY said the noble marquis had only referred to the charges of the defendants that had been found guilty. He contended that the constitutional course would have been to refer the charges against the Irish members to a committee of the House of Commons. The Government had created a new court by political means to try political opponents—one of the most dangerous proceedings that ever came from a constitutional party. He did not question the honour and integrity of the judges, but contended that the report was inadequate, incomplete, and wholly failed to meet the necessities of the case. Who would imagine from the report that the Irish members had cleared themselves? (Ironical cheers from the Ministerial side.)—Lord SALISBURY pointed out that Mr. Parnell had repeatedly asked for the inquiry, and it was necessary to go out of the domain of heated political atmosphere and the ordinary legal tribunal, to try an inquiry of this kind in a calm, judicial, and satisfactory manner. He strongly condemned that element of the Irish agitation which attempted to destroy landlordism. After some remarks from Lord Kimberley, Lord Campbell, and Earl Spencer, Lord DENBY believed the report of the judges had thrown more light on the condition of Ireland, than would be agreeable to Mr. Parnell and his colleagues. After some remarks from Lord Rosebery, the Lord Chancellor denied that the Government had instigated the charges against the Irish members.

—Earl GRANVILLE having replied, the resolution was agreed to, and the House adjourned at 12.30.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Half-holiday Bill.

Mr. MATTHEWS, in answer to a question by Sir J. Lubbock, said he could not give any undertaking for a discussion of the Shopkeepers' Half-holiday Bill. All the assistance he could give was to suggest that if any opportunity arose for considering the bill Mr. Blundell Maple should allow the second reading to take place.

### The Deer at Hampton Court.

Mr. PLUNKET informed Dr. Tanner that it was a fact that 500 deer, which for years past had been maintained in the Home Park, Hampton Court, were being removed, some to Bushey Park and others to Richmond Park. The grazings would continue to be let to the Master of the Horse, as at present, but at an increased rent, representing a gain to the Exchequer of 4000 a year.

### Mr. Labouchere and the Peers.

On the motion to go into committee of Supply, Mr. LABOUCHERE moved that: "It is contrary to the true principles of representative government, and injurious to their efficiency, that any person should sit and vote in Parliament by right of birth; it is therefore desirable to put an end to any such existing rights." He explained that he had had an opportunity of submitting that resolution several times to Parliament. In 1883 it was considered so monstrous that forty members could not be found to listen to his speech; in 1885 the leaders of the Liberal party held aloof from it; in 1888 it was adopted by the whole Liberal party and voted for by the official leaders; and in 1889 the resolution was ratified by the adhesion of the Liberal party and its leaders. He need hardly say that the Liberal leaders would not have done that without being prepared when in office to give effect to what they said in Opposition. As to the talk about representatives for the colonies sitting in the British Parliament, he thought it would be many years before they would assume the name of the House of the Cape of Good Hope or the House of New Zealand. (Laughter.) It had been suggested that with regard to the House of Lords there should be some sort of censorship of morals—perhaps something like that which obtained in the Scotch Kirk. He did not know that there were not as many black sheep in that House as in the other Chamber. He objected to all hereditary peers, whether they be black or white. Nothing was more absurd than that a man should be excluded from the Jockey Club and warned off the racetrack and yet be able to legislate for the people of England. Mr. J. Morley's motion on the subject, with the phrase of "mend or end the House of Lords," was the ad absurdum motion. To allow the Peers to stand for the House of Commons would reduce the House of Lords to a house of fools. (Laughter.) It was said that the lords would never sign the death warrant, but he should remember that this was said at the time of the first Reform Bill. Democracy had become a reality, and the people had no idea of 600 hereditary men of one class interfering with what they deemed to be for the good and benefit of the country. The House of Lords was in fatal and eternal antagonism to democracy. Mr. A. JONES seconded the resolution, which he described as a very moderate proposal. It did not aim at the abolition of the House of Lords, but merely aimed at modifications of the conditions under which it existed, and it did not constitute any innovation. The House of Lords delayed and mutilated many useful measures and rejected others. There was no other legislature in Europe, or in the world, where there was a purely hereditary assembly. Mr. R. COOKS deprecated the idea of taking the question seriously. Mr. COLEMAN supported the resolution. Mr. CURZON said that the one error of the hereditary principle on the ground of abstract theory, or of a scientific induction, sufficiently sound to supply the basis of a hereditary chamber if we were constructing it now. But Houses of Parliament were not made by theory any more than they were destroyed by abstract resolutions. The hereditary principle, how unsound in theory, had gradually but slowly established itself in this country as an automatic mode of selection. The one country in Europe that had one chamber was the abolition of the House of Lords, or its reconstruction; and he pointed out that no alternative had been presented to the House for replacing it. He declared that the House had enough of constitution-mongering on hand already. He would gladly vote for any reasonable reform of the House of Lords, but would vote against the resolution of Mr. Labouchere. The House divided, and the numbers were—For Mr. Labouchere's resolution, 131; against, 165. Mr. COLEMAN called attention to the subject of tuberculosis in cattle, and to the expediency of scheduling the diseases under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts. After some remarks from Dr. Farguharson, Mr. CHAPLIN admitted the importance of the subject, but said that to get rid of the disease was a proposal beset with many difficulties. Man was more liable to the disease than any other animal, and in view of the great difference of opinion among experts he regarded it more as a matter for scientists and experts for further consideration than for the Board of Agriculture. Lord HENRY BRUCE called attention to the laws regulating the levying and collecting the Inhabited House Duty as at present applied to banks, warehouses, institutions, private, and other houses, urging that it should be amended, and where necessary repealed in order to remedy the unjust and anomalous conditions relating thereto. After some discussion, Mr. COLEMAN wondered where the surplus would be if all claims for relief were met. He humorously ridiculed the character of most applicants for relief, and promised to study the questions brought before him. A bill would be introduced at once dealing with the question of poundage to assessors and clerks. On the Report of Supply, a discussion took place upon the treatment of the convict daily, and upon the Tipperary disturbances, and other Irish topics. The second reading of the South Indian Railway Purchase Bill was under discussion at 12 o'clock, and the debate on it was adjourned.—The House adjourned at 12.20.

### THE EASTER MANOEUVRES.

It was officially announced at Dover on Thursday that the only manoeuvres which will take place with the Dover marching column on Easter Monday will be held in the neighbourhood of Hythe, between that place and Shoreham. The manoeuvres, however, will be confined to the Volunteers. The Regular troops will not, as in previous years, take part.

## ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

### The Nomination at Ayr.

The nomination of candidates at Ayr for the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. John Sinclair (G.) took place on Thursday. The nominations handed in were those of Mr. Somervell of Zorn (C.) and Mr. E. Routledge (G.). The polling takes place on Monday. The figures at the last two general elections were:—

1885.	1890.
R. F. Campbell (L.) 2,460	R. F. Campbell (L.) 2,073
M. Low (G.) 2,118	J. Sinclair (G.) 1,498

Majority 342

On the death of Mr. Campbell in 1888 a new election took place, and the figures then were:—

J. Sinclair (G.) 2,331	Evelyn Ashley (U.) 2,263
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Majority 68

Boston.—Mr. Atkinson (C.) declares that there is no truth in the statement that he intends to resign his seat.

Down (East).—Mr. Balfour, the Chief Secretary, has written a letter recommending Dr. Renauld, the Conservative candidate, to the electors. The nomination has been fixed for next Tuesday, and the polling for the following Tuesday. No Parnellite candidate has yet been announced, but it is said that a Protestant Home Ruler will be nominated.

Leeds (Central).—Sir James Kitson has declined to be the Gladstonian candidate.

Leicester.—Alderman Sir James Whitehead has decided to accept the invitation to be the Gladstonian candidate, in the place of Mr. M. Arthur.

Manchester (North).—Mr. T. P. Price, who a few weeks ago wrote stating that he would not seek re-election, has consented to reconsider his decision.

Barrow.—Mr. J. S. Ainsworth (G.), who was defeated by Mr. Caine in 1886, has withdrawn.

### DEATH OF MR. SWETENHAM, M.P.

Mr. Edmund Swetenham, Q.C., M.P., died at his residence, near Wrexham, on Thursday. He was born in 1822, and educated at Macclesfield and Oxford. He was called to the bar in 1848, and took silk in 1859. He entered Parliament for the first time in July, 1886. By his death a vacancy is caused in the representation of Carnarvon. The Conservatives will select a candidate on Monday. The figures at the two previous elections were:—

1885.	1890.
L. J. Parry (L.) 1,293	E. Swetenham (C.) 1,820
M. Swetenham (G.) 1,858	L. J. Parry (L.) 1,684

Majority 565

### RESIGNATION OF MR. R. GARDNER, M.P.

Mr. R. Richardson Gardner has resigned his seat for Windsor. Mr. F. Tress Barry, J.P., of St. Leonard's Hill, Clewer, Windsor, is the Conservative candidate. There will, it is expected, be a contest, with Mr. W. H. Grenfell as the Gladstonian candidate. The writ will be moved on Monday in the House of Commons. The figures at the election in 1885 were:—Mr. R. Richardson Gardner (C.), 1,431; Hon. Mr. E. Butler (L.), 906; majority, 525. In 1886 Mr. Richardson-Gardner was returned unopposed. Mr. Francis Tress Barry, the Conservative candidate, has issued his address to the electors. He states that he is a Unionist, and in perfect accord with the present Government, and their general and foreign policy. Mr. Grenfell, in his address issued on Saturday, promises his support to the party who follow Mr. Gladstone, and is in favour of giving Ireland a legislative body for the control of local affairs.

### A DIVE IN A SACK FROM LONDON BRIDGE.

About three o'clock on Friday morning a market porter, named Fuller, dived from London Bridge tied in a sack. In his hand he carried a long, thin knife, which he did not open until after reaching the water. The dive was performed for a wager, and Fuller succeeded in cutting open the sack and extricating himself a few seconds after immersion.

### A CONFESSION OF FRAUD.

At Marylebone Police Court on Friday, a tall, thin man, giving the name of Walter Clifford, aged 60, but looking much younger, describing himself as a painter, without any home, was charged, on his own confession, with obtaining 45 by means of a beguiling letter from Mrs. Wrightson, of Great Cumberland-place, Hyde Park, in February.—Inspector Dwyer, B. Division, said the prisoner entered the Marylebone Police Station on the previous night, and handed in a written confession, of which the following is a copy:—"I, Walter Clifford, surrender myself up for obtaining moneys under false pretences from Mrs. Wrightson, of 34, Great Cumberland-place, Hyde Park. I received about a month since a cheque for 45 on the branch of the Bank of England, Burlington Gardens, at which bank I cashed it. That was obtained by the name of Richard Henry Burton. I have previously had remittances from her under the name of Walter Clifford, which is my right name. I am weary of the excitement attending such a course of life. I represented myself to Mrs. Wrightson as a person authorised to collect funds for the benefit of those suffering from the epidemic."—Some evidence having been given, the case was remanded.

### LIGHT-WEIGHT BOXING CHAMPIONSHIP OF AMERICA.

A Central News telegram from San Francisco states that on Friday night the long-expected battle between Jack McAuliffe and Jimmy Carroll, for a heavy purse and the light-weight championship, was brought off there, before a crowd of well-known sportsmen, at the Athletic Club. The men wore light gloves, and seemed in good condition. The fight was of a desperate character. Carroll proved himself a hard hitter, and fought with the greatest determination. There was little to choose between them in the earlier rounds, first one and then the other obtaining the lead, but eventually McAuliffe's superior science and generalship told, and Carroll was knocked out in the forty-seventh round.

### MISTAKING A DONKEY FOR A BEAR.

From Penmaenmawr it is stated that, while several farmers were searching on the Aber Mountains for the escaped bear which had killed so many sheep, one of the party suddenly halted near a tree, at the foot of which was reclining a brown animal. Not doubting that it was the ferocious creature they so much wanted, a tremendous shout was raised, and the hunters fired with fatal effect. The dead quadruped proved to be a donkey. At last, however, the hunters were successful in the search. They discovered the bear and killed it.

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ALLEGED ATTEMPT TO STEAL £5,000.

Frank Lackrose, 29, William Smith, 39, and Charles Robinson, 41, respectively-dressed men, stated to be Americans, who refused to give any account of themselves, were charged before Mr. Alderman Renals, at the Guildhall Justice Room on Friday, with attempting to steal a bag containing about 45,000 in notes, cheques, and gold, belonging to Messrs. Coutts and Co., bankers, of 59, Strand, from one of their walking clerks in the Thredneedle-street branch of the City Bank, on the 7th March. Mr. Bosanquet prosecuted on behalf of the Bankers' Association, and Mr. Arthur Newton defended the prisoners. In opening the case, Mr. Bosanquet said that, as each of the accused had refused to give any address or account of himself, he should, after giving some evidence, have to ask for a remand. He thought he should be able to satisfy the alderman that the police had arrested some of the most dangerous members of society, who made it their practice to go about from bank to bank, watch the customs of the clerks and cashiers in the transaction of their business, and then, when the opportunity arrived, to commit a robbery of a very large and serious nature. Fortunately, in the present case, they were stopped before they had effected their object. As there would have to be further inquiries, he should go fully into the case, and only put in the evidence of the bank clerk and police-officer.—Mr. William Edward Stone said that he resided at 59, Strand. He was a walk clerk at Messrs. Coutts & Co., bank, 59, Strand. On the 7th of March he went to collect walk accounts. He went into the City Bank, Thredneedle-street. He had about 45,000 in notes and cheques and 42,000 in cheques in his bag. While he was attending to his business he saw the prisoners, Lackrose and Smith, placed themselves on witness's right side and Lackrose on his left. His bag was in front of him on the counter at that time, Smith touched him on the right shoulder, and asked him to show him the way to the Bank of Westminster. Thinking he meant the London and Westminster Bank, Lothbury, he pointed out the way to him. He had moved about a foot away, leaving his bag on the counter, where it previously was. On turning round he found the prisoner, Lackrose, standing by him, and found a case inside his bag. It was an ordinary handbag, with a banker's case inside it. He (prisoner) immediately dropped it (the case), and said, "Pardon me, I thought it was my bag." Witness said, "All right," but on looking round saw Lackrose and Smith hurrying out together. Lackrose not having a bag aroused witness's suspicion, and he hurried out after them but could find no trace of them. He had previously called them in the Agony Column where he had seen them. He communicated with the police, and on Thursday morning was shown several men at the Bow-street Police Station. He at once picked out the prisoners Lackrose and Smith from among them.—Mr. Alderman Renals ordered a remand, and refused to accept bail.

### SUICIDE FROM LONDON BRIDGE.

A respectable-dressed middle-aged man was observed about six o'clock on Friday morning to throw himself from London Bridge. No boats were near to render assistance, and the man was carried down by the tide and drowned.

### GARROTTING A MUSIC HALL MANAGER.

As Mr. Fred Law, the manager of the South London Palace, was proceeding home early on Friday morning he was stopped by a gang of roughs, who "pinned" him and rifled his pockets. All the money in his possession was stolen, and also his watch-chain, which fortunately snapped at the snarl, leaving his gold watch behind. The police were absent for some time after the robbery, but Mr. Law was able to give notice of it at Kennington-lane. It is thought the attack was a planned one.

### A STRANGE PARCEL.

A number of packages have been received at Sandgate Railway Station from a Regent-street office, and consigned to an officer in Shorncliffe Camp. On being checked, an undressed parcel was found among them, to which no reference was made on the list, the inference being that it was placed with the others after the Bricklayers' Arms authorities had made their entries. On examination, the mysterious parcel was found to consist of a stone jar containing the body of a male infant preserved in liquor. The body bore marks of violence, there being a large laceration in the chest, while the top part of the skull is missing. An examination tends to show that the birth was medically attended, and that foul play is suspected.

### ALLEGED GREAT FORGERY OF SPANISH BONDS.

At the Mansion House Police Court on Friday, Edward Varone, 43, described as a merchant, was brought before the Lord Mayor, on a warrant, charging him with having, in January, February, and March, in the City of London, unlawfully conspired with one Justo Martos, by false pretences, to obtain from the Deutsche Bank, dividers large sums of money, and to intend to do fraud.—Mr. Abrahamson, in opening the case, said that prosecution had been instituted by the Deutsche Bank, the Credit Lyonnais, the Société Générale, and other foreign banks, who had been the victims of a most ingenious and audacious forgery of Spanish Four per Cent. Exterior Debt Bonds. The forgery had been carried out in the most dexterous manner, the whole of the bonds forged, and the forgers had even been able to negotiate them in Spain. The forgery was primarily attributed to one Justo Martos, an office in the City, and gained the confidence of the prosecutors by getting them to buy bonds for him. After a time, he reversed these operations, and sent to the bankers various bonds for sale. These bonds were the forged ones in question, and the banks had been victims to the extent of £23,000. The charge against the prisoner was that of having conspired with Martos to effect the forgery, with having uttered the forged bonds and received the proceeds, and with actually obtaining some of the money from the prosecutors. The information on which the warrant was obtained was read.—Mr. R. W. Basserman, a clerk in the London branch of the Deutsche Bank, at 4, Lombard-street, said they received from Justo Martos, who described himself as a stock and share dealer, at 10 and 11, Clement's-lane, in the last three months bonds of the Exterior Debt of Spain, now produced, and, on the faith of their being genuine, they paid him £1,400, which he paid into his account at the London and South-Western Bank (Stockwell branch). They discovered on the 8th inst. that the whole of the bonds were forged.—Some evidence having been given, the Lord Mayor remanded the prisoner for a week.



## STRANGE TRADES AND PROFESSIONS.

By STANLEY CATCHPOL

### X.—HOME SWINDLERS.

Their chief office is in London, with depots at Paris, Berlin, Geneva, Vienna, and Madrid; and a shrewd, clever gang of men, for up to the present they have evaded the police.

A certain amount of pride exists within me in believing that not a single Englishman is engaged in this trade, though, to our cost, the inhabitants of this land are made their victims. There are very few trading or commercial families but what have had, or have at the present moment, a relation—little more connected—who has not been on the continent to acquire experience.

Of late years—that is, since the grovelling continental beggar hordes have migrated to this land—the English clerk, warehouseman, or hotel employee, to compete with the foreigner, has found it a necessity to learn another language or two besides his own; and having furnished himself with a small sum of money starts for either of the above places, and perhaps, after a few months of compulsory idleness, obtains a berth in a house that has commercial transactions with English-speaking people. These young folks, to perfect themselves in a language, seek the society of the natives as much as possible, and as frequently happens, open their minds a little too much. The consequence is, that their people at home are made to suffer, and this how it is often done.

Single men in Europe, excluding Great Britain and Ireland, possess no home comforts; their spare hours are generally spent either in the theatre, café, or billiard room, and there they make a host of French acquaintances. Among them is the Home Swindler, who fastens himself at once upon the young Englishman, professing great friendship.

After a few weeks the Anglo-Saxon has divulged his pedigree—who he is, what he is. Being honest he has nothing to fear; even the social position of the folks at home is also made known to the Home Swindler, the very information above all other he desires before he commences to operate. All this is transmitted to headquarters in London. This agent sets to work and makes inquiries to find out whether George Douglas's father is well enough off to draw the £10,000. His first instalment from home was £10, then followed, on separate occasions, two £5. He felt ashamed to ask his father for more, making up his mind he would rough it. Not so the jovial, kind-hearted Prussian, who took pains to teach him German.

George ceased writing home; having no good news to forward, he would not send bad. His good friend was not so punctilious. One day Mr. Douglas received a letter from Berlin in a strange handwriting, stating that his son George was dangerously ill, and that he was in arrears at his hotel and that would become of him unless £200 were sent, immediately, either through the post or through a friend deputed to call, who had recently returned from Berlin to London, and was bringing direct news. On the same day that letter reached the father's hands a foreign gentleman called, giving full particulars how his son was situated, and, among many things, said "that he was not a rich man, or he would have given Mr. George more than he did, but he could not spare more than £200."

Mr. Douglas, who was fond of his son and touched with independence, was profuse in thanks, and offered the foreign gentleman the two sovereigns which he had given, who, after making several small refusals, consented, just to oblige the father of his dear English friend, to accept them.

The following day £200 were sent off to the sick-stricken son. George had changed his address, and the money fell into the hands of the Home Swindler.

The father kept writing, but received no answer, because his letters never reached his son. George would not write because he had nothing to do, and felt heartily ashamed to drag any more money out of that father's pocket. And it was not until the young Englishman obtained employment that the true particulars were known and how the father had been duped.

Our brethren who hail from the north are always regarded as particularly cute and are supposed to sleep with one eye open; but even they are caught sometimes, as the following little narrative will prove.

James Campbell had one great fault—being poor, he always sought to make people believe that he was well-to-do. With his southern friends he could rub along exceedingly well, but with the foreigners, who held the best positions in his firm, he was at great disadvantage, and the only advantage that he could see that they possessed was a disquieting bad smattering of English beside their own tongues. To be equal with them he made up his mind to start for Paris, and thither he went with a few pounds in his pocket which he had saved. As he was a careful and thrifty man, he husbanded his resources until he got employment in a well-known house which did business with London. But he, like the majority of young men, could not live entirely a hermit's life, and sought recreation in divers ways, and, as bad luck would have it, made friends with a Home Swindler.

At first when he went away a regular correspondence was kept up with his brother in London, but after a time letters fell to one a month, and then there was a long lapse.

When James ever spoke of his brother it was always as if he was a big man in the City of London who maintained a fine large house at Kensington. So he did, but it was never stated in public that he was a lodger-house, and others assisted him to pay the rent.

Campbell, senior, could no more have kept that house than he could one in the moon; the rent was more for twelve months than he drew for a year's screw. Then again, the Paris brother would often tell his acquaintances how silly they were to live up to their incomes, and that, similar to him, they might have a snug sum put by. In this usual Scotchman's discretion was sadly wanting, for among those to whom he took upon himself to advise was a certain party, who determined, by hook or by crook, to have a portion, if not all.

The little plot between the London Home Swindler and the Paris one was soon nicely hatched. One was lodging in the brother's house in London; the French representative had a room in the same lodging-house with the other brother in Paris.

Quite a long time had intervened since letters had been exchanged between the brothers.

One fine morning as one was delivered in London another arrived in Paris. Both of these communications contained something after this style:—

Dear Donald, I am in a most awful scrape. For God's sake send me £50 at once, or I shall be sent to the galleys. I have more than enough to cover the amount I ask of you, but I cannot touch it, as I have no money. Should you command, it will do no harm to lend me the money for a couple of weeks. By that time the money will again be in your possession. For dead father's and mother's sake don't fail to help your loving brother.

JAMES CAMPBELL, Paris.

This is another:—

Dear James, I've had a terrible stroke of bad luck. Since the time the older brother's wife has lately been attacked with fits of somnambulism, and all these attacks something or the other has disappeared, and no trace left behind. The last time she took the cash-box, wherein, as you know, I keep what little valuable I possess, along with £50, and has secreted them away. Unless you lend me that sum for a few weeks I am a ruined man.

Now these brothers, as all brothers should be.

were deeply attached to one another, and either would have moved heaven or earth to befriend the other.

These letters no sooner came to hand than each despatched his £50, to the loss of both, fell into the Home Swindler's hands.

After a few days neither could understand why an acknowledgment of the safe receipt of the money was not forthcoming. A week passed by, then off were sent two hurried letters, the end of it being that James came up his berth in Paris and came to London in time to see the brokers taking his brother's furniture in lieu of rent.

Whether the younger resumed his studies of the French language in Paris I don't know.

At Faversham, Norfolk, there lived one of those genuine-hearted countrymen who seldom met with nowadays—a sincere Christian gentleman, who had for a partner a woman as noble in heart as she was lofty in soul. Having no children of their own they had adopted a girl who had been left an orphan at a very tender age. An uncle, of whom she had never heard, had died when she was about eighteen, and left her a sum of about £200, but which was not to be touched until she was twenty-five. Siera, a paragon for that was her name, was educated for a governess, and at the time she fell among thieves was staying in a certain hotel bordering on Lake Lemán, in Switzerland, with a family. Like the two good folks with whom she had been brought up, she was as free from knowing anything of the snares and traps which surround one almost at every turn one takes throughout life as a child at the age of ten.

Though she was wanting in experience of the world she was not deficient of sound good sense; and she could easily see, or thought she could, through the attempts of a certain man, who spoke English with a double accent—American and German—that he did not want her, but her money. For he had mistaken her for the eldest daughter of those people in whose service she was. When he learnt she was only a governess his attentions were not quite so warm, but he did not let her see the change. He had to give him a seat near her, yet he was all politeness whenever by chance they met.

After a few days his coldness or apparent slighting of the governess suddenly vanished and he lost no opportunity to let poor little plain Siera know that he was desperately in love with her.

He made acquaintance—not difficult in an hotel on the continent—with the gentleman and lady whose children she had been in the service of.

One day he sent up his card, and begged the favour of an interview. The gentleman acquiesced, and the Home Swindler at once opened his heart and asked permission to pay his addresses to the governess. So honourable was he that he deposited papers before the astonished eyes of Mrs. Langley, proving that he was a Graf by birth, but owing to his ancestors having run through an early fortune he had been obliged to earn his living. He had also become an American citizen, his home was in Philadelphia, where he was trading as an wholesale furrier.

So straightforward and honest seemed everything that Mrs. Langley thought it would be a splendid chance for the orphan governess, and told her so when they were alone, though at the same time strongly advising Siera to do nothing without consulting those good old souls at home.

Accordingly the governess was communicated with, and in time an answer came "that, however much they loved their adopted daughter, they were willing to subdue their own feelings, if by so doing their little Siera would be happy. It was for her to decide now, not them, as she was more than twenty-five."

And she did decide promptly, for although much in love with the man who spoke English with a double accent, she was wise enough to accept a positive engagement until they returned to London, which they would do in about three months.

But Graf von Luftland had learnt by this time all he wanted to know. Siera's address in England and her little fortune he had overheard her pupils talking about, which they, no doubt, had learnt from some conversation which had occurred between their father and mother or from gossip among the servants at home.

And greatly grieved was that good old couple at home to receive a letter, purporting to come from their little Siera, hoping they would forgive her for no one else did. That the American gentleman who had left England, and that now—she was almost afraid to mention it, but it must be told—she knew not one day from the other but that a little stranger would come into the world; they must think her cruel for deceiving them. To hide her shame she must stay where she was; and then followed, "Please send me £100 out of my little fortune. The Home Swindler had concocted the story, cleverly imitating the governess's handwriting and changing her address. The letter with £100 fell into his hands to share with his comrades in London and elsewhere.

A £200 PRIZE FOR NOTHING! £100 in Cash Prizes! Easy for all! Holidays for all! Do it in your spare minutes. "A Swindle" the majority will exclaim on reading this, owing to the machinery with which the stamps to be enclosed for the past and present times. Persons who, after reading the following particulars (which, with little trouble on their part, will be found to contain genuine and valuable prizes) will be found to contain genuine and valuable prizes. Persons who, after reading the following particulars (which, with little trouble on their part, will be found to contain genuine and valuable prizes) will be found to contain genuine and valuable prizes.

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## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Every letter sent to the editor must be accompanied by a return address, and the name of the correspondent. Letters not so accompanied will be returned to the sender. Letters not so accompanied will be returned to the sender. Letters not so accompanied will be returned to the sender.

### LEGAL.

AN ANXIOUS ONE.—All arrears can be recovered. CLOTHING.—The intention of the agreement, which is very clearly drafted, seems to be that either party should be at liberty to terminate the contract by giving three months' notice.

F. JONES.—You appear to have a good claim. E. A. C.—Having given permission, you cannot cancel it. J. B.—We cannot say.

REPORT OF THE COURT.—You could get the full report of the case. Perhaps the clerk of the court might be able to help you.

CAUTION.—It stands good. C. B.—You cannot do anything until details are made. M. B. O.—No. 2. Yes, by revoking it.

F. J. B.—I, Yes. 2. Yes. FIVE YEARS' SUBSCRIPTION.—You must pay for the damages. R. B.—Without seeing the will, it would be risky to pronounce any opinion.

E. DAY.—It must have the Government stamp. E. M. B.—You will have to bear the expense. J. B.—You were duly warned that the trap was open, you have, unfortunately, no claim for compensation.

W. J. ROSE.—The case is absolutely governed by the rules of the society. THOUGHTFUL WIDOW.—By suing him in the county court, and producing the IOU in evidence of the debt.

K. D.—Twenty-one in both cases. WIDOW.—It will rest with the arbitrators to decide. ANXIOUS.—The notice is quite legal, and if you do not notice, she can double or triple your rent without further notice.

BEN STONE.—In both cases the question of costs would rest with the court to decide. S. J.—It entirely depends on the terms of the agreement.

E. B.—The additional charge is probably for interest. That would come to a round sum in fifteen years. J. T.—If you pay your claim for admission, a license must be obtained, not otherwise.

LEGAL.—No, he must comply with the order of the court. HARRIS INQUIRER.—Give notice again if they do not vacate and the proceeds by ejectment. C. STEEL.—She has no right to keep the things. You can sue her for their value, and you had better do so.

W. CHURCH.—The marriage is binding, but the husband can be punished for the false statement. It would rest with the court to fix the amount of punishment. CHURCH.—It depends on their nature. 2. Yes.

SUBSCRIBER FROM NO. 4.—The charge is a matter of mutual agreement; it varies greatly. S. B. BLIVE.—They must see him sign; it requires a stamp.

N. L.—No. M. N.—As the marriage took place prior to 1883, any property she possessed at the time became her husband's. She cannot, therefore, bequeath it by will.

J. J.—You can pay it off without notice at the end of the prescribed period. 2. No. J. L.—The claim has lapsed.

B. J.—You have a good case for damages. H. B.—The notice is perfectly legal. C. C.—Your only liability, apparently, is for payment of rent on the premises.

V. O. B.—To make discovery of the supposed fortune you would have to employ some agent at New Orleans, and that might involve considerable expense. J. J.—There is no "pious fraud" involved in any case. We cannot understand what you want to know. You had better consult a solicitor.

DOCTEUR.—It would occupy too much space to give the result of the case. You had better invest some in a copy of the case.

E. O. H.—You appear to have a good claim. F. L.—If you are sure that you did not give a written statement, you may sue to take the whole work. The publisher may, however, that he holds your written order for the work "until completed." If that be true, you are liable.

J. D.—An agreement for a lease is, if properly drafted and executed, every bit as good as a lease, and very much less costly.

J. W. J.—You held the premises as they were when you took them. 2. No. 3. Yes, probably, if proved to have been so.

W. H. A. (Kamagras).—1. Temporary Unlaw is no excuse for non-payment of wages. 2. Apply to cancel the indenture. G. F. F.—Yes; the property is still liable, though empty. J. J.—You must see how the landlord can claim. From your statement it appears to have been an absolute sale.

A LOVER OF "THE PEOPLE."—You are bound to pay the arrears before leaving. H. G. H.—She need not have either surties or trustees to back her.

W. M. C.—Of course you must pay the rent. HOUSEHOLD.

R. O. S. (Surrey).—As you say you are a "regular reader," you should have known we have given the full recipe already. J. J.—The recipe is in the "Household" column. It will be a tedious job if you have many.

AVANT-GUARD.—If not very dirty, they might be cleaned with brine, or a mixture of brine and water. If you have a good deal of soap, make a hot soap and water, let it get tepid, and work them through this; avoid rubbing on of soap as much as possible, use no soda or powders of any sort, hurry through the washing, and rinse them out with cold water as quickly as you can. If the color is good, you will not stand, and, if the color is good, you will not stand, and, if the color is good, you will not stand.

E. W.—A recipe was given in issue of February 2nd. J. J.—To restore your faded picture, take a picture frame with a gold "that will last and not turn color," you must learn the art, which generally requires a pretty long apprenticeship. 2. Dust it well, and you may clean it with a soft cloth as often as you like. 3. To restore your faded picture, take a picture frame with a gold "that will last and not turn color," you must learn the art, which generally requires a pretty long apprenticeship.

J. P. J.—A little ammonia water, or washing and spirits of wine. 2. No; you can buy it cheaper than you could make it in small household quantities.

L. M.—This is a manufacturing, not a household matter. F. SMITH.—There is no recipe we know of.

AMATEUR PAINTER.—We cannot instruct you. UNHAPPY LOTS.—Quackeries are quite correct; you can have a quackery of your own, and it will be a success. Make a strong infusion by pouring boiling water over, say, one ounce at a time in a jug, making it just as you would tea; let it get cold before you use it, and apply it as a wash every second day for a week, and you will be rid of the warts.

G. W. R.—You could hardly learn the practical niceties of the trade from a paragraph in a paper. We therefore advise you to have it done by a professional.

E. J. J.—To restore your faded picture, take a picture frame with a gold "that will last and not turn color," you must learn the art, which generally requires a pretty long apprenticeship.

CONSERVATIVE.—If the color is good, it will not want staining. We have given directions for polishing too lately to repeat them.

E. B.—Use a lined oil till it is sticky, add sugar; some also add arsenic; beat the paper, and spread on white hot.

HEATRICE.—There is no remedy better than constant cleanliness; especially continue dusting away any fine particles of dirt, and keep the room as clean as possible. Camphor sprinkled liberally among the bedclothes and strong smelling herbs would help to banish them.

BLACKBERRY.—Tallow, hog's lard, and arsenic make a good ointment for the cure of the warts. If you have a good deal of soap, make a hot soap and water, let it get tepid, and work them through this; avoid rubbing on of soap as much as possible, use no soda or powders of any sort, hurry through the washing, and rinse them out with cold water as quickly as you can. If the color is good, you will not stand, and, if the color is good, you will not stand.

L. D.—In some persons the light hair has a natural tendency to darken as the children grow up. We should not advise the use of "plenty of soda," or any at all; a washing with soap and water is all that is needed.

M. G. S.—A little sweet oil and whitening is about the best polish you can use for plate glass, or whitening and water, with a piece of wash leather. We have also heard paraffin oil used for the same purpose.

KOVIN.—It depends upon what sort of cloth it is; fuller's earth laid over a patch of grease is very effective in some cases.

B. M.—Use tweezers, that is the only effective method we can suggest.

FLA.—See above reply to "East."

NAP.—No. See recipe given in issue of February 9th. A. B.—Dissolve in a quart of water one ounce caustic acid and one ounce white vitriol. First wash the white top with water, then sponge with the above liquid, and wash off with clean water.

PARAFFIN.—Pack in damp but not wet moss, but we cannot assure you they will last fresh for a long time. We constantly receive flowers quite fresh, packed with oil in wooden boxes, from the South of France.

G. O.—A solution of peroxide of hydrogen in water containing a little of the above will be found to be the best and most harmless dye for producing golden hair.

NATURAL HISTORY.

A. W. ARROWSMITH.—It is illegal from March 1st to August 1st, except on your own land.

P. SAWYER.—We should say he was troubled with worms, for which arsenic is the most efficacious prescription. Most of which arsenic is the most efficacious prescription. Most of which arsenic is the most efficacious prescription.

We do not know what to advise you, as we do not recognize the disease from your description of it.

O. J. B.—There is no harm as long as the paint is perfectly dry, and the smell of it allowed to go off before the fish are put in. As for the smell, it is not so bad as you think.

G. B.—If you want to know how you have had him, what you have fed him on, &c., we might be able to assist you.

H. B.—It seems to be in a bad way. You had better take him to a vet. It is too complicated and serious to do with here.

ANNESTY FISH.—Grey pike are a good staple diet. It may be varied with a little barley, or taro, or small tick beans, or wheat, &c. &c. &c. Let them have as much exercise as possible.

J. WILLIAMS.—Very small earthworms, bloodworms, frog-tadpoles, flies, &c., will be all well. You can keep them with the gold fish, but the tank must be covered, for they can climb up glass. They must have some landing place to go on. Ballantrae or anacharis or any small-leaved plant will do to lay their eggs on.

ANGLING.

T. O.—Most of the large trout caught in the Thames are taken by hand fishing. You will see directions as to the kind of tackle required. The best tackle must be covered, for they can climb up glass. They must have some landing place to go on. Ballantrae or anacharis or any small-leaved plant will do to lay their eggs on.

C. W.—A 3 lb. chub is decidedly a better specimen than a 4 lb. pike, but the 4 lb. pike should be awarded the prize.

BLACK GRAY.—Many instances of swallows taking an artificial fly and being safely captured have occurred.

A. S.—You question is the same as "Clubman's." See above.

CYCLING.

G. A. JOHNSON.—It is a very difficult business to fix a true accuracy. You had much better get it done by an expert. We do not reply by post.

J. HENRY.—It is a good machine for the price, but you must not expect perfection for such a small sum. Pay the place, personal visit and judge for yourself after trying the machine in the riding-school.

LETITIA.—Yes; there are capital schools, where you will meet with every attention, at Croydon and the Metropolitan "Machinery." See their advertisements on the "Omnibus."

J. B.—The proper weight depends entirely on the quality of the materials used in construction. About 40 lb. is considered the right thing for a twelve-stone man when the machine is in the riding-school.

NOVICE.—We do not recommend one or another; it would be against our rule. See "Mr. Wheeler's" remarks this week.

PROVINCIAL.—You could not do the regulating yourself. Take the machine to a repairer of good repute.

PROVINCIAL.—Cold tea without sugar is a good third measure; beer has, unfortunately, the disadvantage of increasing thirst.

J. S. B.—Very many thanks. Your obliging communication shall be dealt with next week.

O. T. C.—The annual subscription is half-a-crown, which entitles the member to receive by post copy of the "Monthly Gazette" and to other privileges.

FINANCIAL.

E. M.—1. Fairly trustworthy. 2. The security is not quite so good as that of the great limited liability concerns, but still very respectable.

RENTS.—Get rid of No. 2; hold on to Nos. 1 and 3 for a bit longer.

R. C.—1. Decidedly not; where is the security? 2. There is some risk, of course, but on the whole it is a sound investment. 3. Undoubtedly.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MINNEY.—Your deplorable situation is, like that of many others, wives as well as husbands, without redress. Disposition to quarrel, only to be placed in a position, with their consent, and there would be little likelihood, we fear, of your obtaining that.

W. G. M.—The only way to secure employment there is to make a reputation for yourself by writing for the outside.

TRANSMISSION.—You had better invest in a guide book. It would occupy far more space than we can afford to comply with your rather unreasonable request.

G. COOK.—Quite out of date.

EAST.—Eggs.—Use the proper dyes; they can be obtained of any oil and colourman.

BAVOLI.—Some of the idiots do; it is their ambition to make themselves look as effeminate as possible, and they succeed.

V. P. A.—If you mean without any charge, there is no institution of the sort, and never likely to be.

WELFARE.—In 1888.

W. J.—We have no record. Overend, Gurney, and Co. broke on last Friday, 11th May, 1890.

A. M.—It



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# THE FIRM OF GIRDLESTONE. A ROMANCE OF THE UNROMANTIC.

BY A. CONAN DOYLE.

AUTHOR OF "MICAN CLARK," "A STUDY IN SCARLET," ETC.

## CHAPTER XLIII.

## THE BAIT ON THE HOOK.

The grey winter evening was beginning to steal in before the details had all been arranged by the conspirators. It had grown so chill that Kate had abandoned her attempt at gardening, and had gone back to her room. Ezra left his father and Burt by the fire and came out to the open hall door. The grim old trees looked gaunt and eerie as they waved their naked arms about in the cutting wind. A slight fog had come up from the sea and lay in light wreaths over the upper branches like a thin veil of gauze. Ezra was shivering as he surveyed the dreary scene, when he felt a hand on his arm, and looking round he saw that the maid Rebecca was standing beside him.

"Haven't you got one word for me?" she said sadly, looking up into his face. "It's but once a week, and then never a word of greeting."

"I didn't see you, my lass," Ezra answered. "How does the Priory suit you?"

"One place is the same as another to me," she said cheerfully. "You asked me to come here and I have come. You said once that you would know how to make me serve you down here. When am I to know?"

"Why there's no secret about that. You do serve me when you look after my father as he has done these weeks back. That old woman isn't fit to manage the whole place by herself."

"That wasn't what you meant though," said the girl, looking at him with questioning eyes. "I remember your face when you spoke the words. You had something on your mind, and have now only you keep it to yourself. Why won't you trust me with it?"

"Don't be a fool!" answered Ezra curtly. "I have a great deal to worry me in business matters. Much good it would do telling you about them."

"It's more than that," said Rebecca doggedly. "Who is that man who has come down?"

"A business man from London. He has come to consult my father about money matters. Any more questions you would like to ask?"

"I should like to know how long he is to be kept down here, and what the meaning of all it may be."

"We are going back before the end of the winter, and the meaning of it is that Miss Harston was not well and needed a change of air. Now are you satisfied?" He was determined to allay as far as possible any suspicions that the girl might have previously formed.

"And what brings you down here?" she asked with the same searching look. "You don't come down into this hole without some good reason. I did think at first that you might come down in order to see me, but you soon showed me that it wasn't that. There was a time when you was fond of me."

"So I am now, lass," he said.

"Ay, very fond! Not a word nor a look from you last time you came. You must have some reason, though, that brings you here."

"There's nothing wonderful in a man coming to see his own father for him in London," she cried with a shrill laugh. "If he was under the sod you would not be the sadder. It's my belief as you come down after that doll-faced missy upstairs."

"Dry up, now!" said Ezra roughly. "I've had enough of your confounded nonsense."

"You don't talk in that style to her," she said excitedly. "You scorn me, but I know this, that if I can't have your love no one else shall. I've got a dash of the gipsy in me, as you know. Rather than that girl should have you I would rather have you, too!" She shook her clenched fist at him, and her face was so full of vindictive passion that Ezra was astonished.

"I always knew that you were a spiteful," he said, "but you never came it quite so strong as this before."

The reaction had already come upon her, however, and tears were running down her cheeks. "You'll never leave me entirely!" she cried, clasping his arm. "I could hear to share your love with another, but I wouldn't have you turn against me again!"

"You'll have no father out presently with your damned noise!" said Ezra. "Get away, and wash your face."

His word was law to hear, and she turned away, still weeping bitterly. In her poor, dim, eventless life the sole bright spot had been the attention which the young merchant had occasionally shown her. To her distorted fancy he was a man among men, a hero, all that was admirable and magnificent. What was there which she would not do for him? She had the faithfulness of a dog, but like a dog she could snarl fiercely at any one who came between her mistress's affection and herself. Deep down in her heart ranked the one suspicion which no assurances could remove, that an understanding existed between the man she loved and the woman she hated. As she withdrew to her room she determined that during this visit of Ezra's she would manage in such a way that no communication could pass between them without her knowledge. She knew that it was a dangerous thing to play the spy upon the young man, for he had shown her before now that she was no precaution against his brutality. Nevertheless she set herself to do it with all the cunning and perseverance of a jealous woman.

As the light faded and the greys of evening deepened into darkness Kate sat patiently in her bare little room. A coal fire sputtered and sparkled in the rusty grate, and there was a tin bucket full of coals beside the fender from which to replenish it. She was very cold, so she drew her single chair up to the blaze and held her head over it. It was a lone and melancholy vigil, while the wind whistled through the branches of the trees and moaned drearily in the cracks and crannies of the old house. When were her friends coming? Perhaps something had occurred to detain them to-day. This morning such a thing would have appeared to her to be an impossibility, but now that the time had come when she had expected them, it appeared probable enough that something might have delayed them. To-morrow at latest they could not fail to come. She wondered what they would do if they did arrive. Would they come boldly up the avenue and claim her from the Girdlestons, or would they endeavour to communicate with her first? Whatever they decided upon would be sure to be for the best.

She went to the window once and looked out. It promised to be a wild night. Far away in the south-west lay a great cumulus of rugged clouds, from which dark streamers radiated over the sky, like the advance guard of an army. Here and there a pale star twinkled dimly out through the rifts, but the greater part of the heavens was black and threatening. It was so dark that she could no longer see the sea, but the crashing, booming sound of the great waves filled the air, and the salt spray came driving in through the open window. She shut it and resumed her seat by the fire, shivering partly from cold and partly from some vague presentiment of evil.

An hour or more had passed when she heard a step upon the stairs and a knock came to her door. It was Rebecca, with a cup of tea upon a tray and some bread and butter. Kate was grateful at this attention, for it saved her from having to go down to the dining-room and face Ezra and his unpleasant-looking companion. Rebecca laid down the tray, and then, to her mistress's surprise, turned back and shut the door. The girl's face was very pale, and her manner was wild and excited.

"Here's a note for you," she said. "It was

given Mrs. Jorrocks to give you, but I am better at climbing stairs than she is, so I brought it up." She handed Kate a little slip of paper as she spoke.

A note for her! Could it be that her friends had arrived and had managed to send a message to her? It must be so. She took it from the maid as she did so she noticed that her hands were shaking as though she had the ague.

"You are not well, Rebecca," said Kate, kindly. "Oh, yes I am. You read your note and don't mind me," the girl answered in her usual surly fashion. Instead of leaving the room she was bustling about the bed as though putting things in order. Kate's impatience was too great to allow her to wait, so she untwisted the paper, which had no seal or fastening. She had hoped in her heart to see the name of her lover at the end of it. Instead of that her eye fell upon the signature of Ezra Girdlestone. What could he have to say to her? She moved the solitary candle on to the mantelpiece, and read the following note, roughly scribbled upon a coarse piece of paper.

My dear Miss Harston, I am afraid your confinement here has been very irksome to you. I have repeatedly requested my father to alleviate or modify it, but he has invariably refused. As he still persists in his refusal, I wish to offer you my aid, and to show you that I am your sincere friend in spite of all that has passed, if you could slip out to-night at nine o'clock and meet me by the withered oak at the head of the avenue, I will see you safe to Beddoworth, and you can, if you wish, go on to Portsmouth by the next train. I shall manage so that you may find the door open by that time. I shall not, of course, go to Portsmouth with you, but shall return here after dropping you at the station. I do this small thing to show you that, hopeless as it may be, the affection which I bear you is still as deep as ever.—Yours, E. GIRDLESTONE.

Our heroine was so surprised and so excited that she sat for some time darning the slip of paper between her fingers and lost in thought. When she glanced round Rebecca had left the room. She rolled the paper up and threw it into the fire. Ezra, then, was not so hard-hearted as she had thought him. He had used his influence to soften his father. Should she accept this chance of escape, or should she await some word from her friends? Perhaps they were already in Beddoworth, but did not know how to communicate with her. If so, this offer of Ezra's was just what she needed. In any case, she could go on to Portsmouth and telegraph from there to the Dimesdale. It was too good an offer to be refused. She made up her mind that she would accept it. It was past eight now, and nine was the hour. She stood up with the intention of putting on her cloak and her bonnet.

CHAPTER XLIV. THE SHADOW OF DEATH.

This conversation with Rebecca had suggested to Ezra that he might still have influence enough with his father's ward to induce her to come out of doors, and so put herself within the reach of Burt. He had proposed the plan to his father, who approved of it heartily. The only weak point in his scheme had been the difficulty which might arise in inducing the girl to venture out of the Priory on that tempestuous winter's night. There was evidently only one incentive strong enough to bring it about, and that was the hope of escape. By harping skillfully upon this string they might lure her into the trap. Ezra and his father composed the letter together, and the former handed it to Mrs. Jorrocks, with a request that she should deliver it.

It chanced, however, that Rebecca, keenly alive to any attempt at communication between the young merchant and her mistress, saw the crone hobbling down the passage with the note in her hand.

"What's that, mother?" she asked.

"It's a letter for her," wheezed the old woman, nodding her tremulous head in the direction of Kate's room.

"I'll see it up," said Rebecca eagerly. "I am just going up with her tea."

"Thank you. These stairs tries my rheumatism something cruel."

The maid took the note and carried it upstairs. Instead of taking it straight to her mistress she slipped into her own room and read every word of it. It appeared to confirm her worst suspicions. Here was Ezra asking an interview with the woman whom he had assured her that he hated. It was true that the request was made in measured words, and on a plausible pretext. No doubt that was merely to deceive any other eye which might rest upon it. There was an understanding between them, and this was an assignation. The girl walked swiftly up and down the room like a caged tigress, striking her head with her clenched hands in her anger and biting her lip until the blood came. It was some time before she could overcome her agitation sufficiently to deliver the note, and when she did so her manner was nervous and wild. She little dreamed of the struggle which was going on in the dark-eyed girl's mind against the impulse which urged her to seize her imagined rival by the white throat and choke the life out of her.

"It's eight o'clock now," Ezra was saying downstairs. "I wonder whether she will come?"

"She is sure to come," his father said briefly. "Suppose she didn't?"

"In that case we should find other means to bring her out. We have not gone so far to break down a wall for a trifle at the last moment."

"I must have something to drink," Ezra said, after a pause, helping himself from the bottle.

"I feel as cold as ice and as nervous as a cat. I can't understand how you look so unconcerned. If you were going to sign an invoice or audit an account or anything else in the way of business you could not take it more calmly. I of the time would come. This waiting is terrible."

"Let us pass the time to advantage," said John Girdlestone, and drawing a little fat Bible from his pocket he began to read it aloud in a solemn and sonorous voice. The yellow light illuminated the old merchant's massive features as he stooped forwards towards the candle. His strongly marked nose and his hollow cheeks gave him a vulture-like aspect, which was increased by the effect of his deep-set, glittering eyes. Ezra, leaning back in his chair with the faint light flicking over his haggard but still handsome face, looked across at his father with a puzzled expression. He had never yet been able to determine whether the old man was a consummate hypocrite or a religious monomaniac. Burt lay with his feet in the light of the fire and his head sunk back across the arm of the chair, fast asleep and snoring loudly.

"Isn't it time to wake him up?" Ezra asked, interrupting the reading.

"Yes, I think it is," his father answered, closing the sacred volume reverently and replacing it in his bosom.

Ezra took up the candle and held it over the sleeping man. "What a brute he looks!" he said. "Did ever you see such an animal in your life?"

The navy was certainly not a pretty sight. His muscular arms and legs were all asprawl and his head hung back at a strange angle to his body, so that his heavy beard pointed upwards, exposing a pale, shiny forehead beneath it. His eyes were half open and looked bleared and unhealthy, while his thick lips puffed out with a whistling sound of every expiration. His dirty brown coat was thrown open, and out of one of the pockets protruded a short thick cudgel with a leaden head. John Girdlestone picked it out and tried it in the air.

"I think I could kill an ox with this," he said. "Don't wake it about my head," cried Ezra. "As you stand in the firelight brandishing that stick in your long arms you are less attractive than usual."

John Girdlestone smiled and replaced the cudgel in the sleeper's pocket. "Wake up, Burt," he cried, shaking him by the arm. "It's half-past eight."

The navy started to his feet with an oath and then fell back into his chair, staring round him vacantly, as a loss to whom he might be.

"Here's a note for you," she said. "It was

now nearly empty, and he held out his hand to it with a exclamation of recognition.

"That was a very good gun," he said, hoarsely. "Must have a drum to make it straight. Did you say it was time for the job?"

"We have made arrangements by which she will be out by the withered oak at nine o'clock."

"That's not for half an hour," cried Burt, in a surly voice. "You need not have woken me yet."

"We'd better get out there now. She may come rather before the time."

"Come on, then!" said the navy, buttoning up his coat and rolling a ragged cravat round his throat. "Who is a comin' with me?"

"We shall both come," answered John Girdlestone, firmly. "You will need help to carry her to the railway line."

"Surely I can do that myself," Ezra remarked. "She's not so very heavy."

Girdlestone drew his son aside. "Don't be so foolish, Ezra," he said. "We can't trust the half-drunken fellow. It must be done with the greatest care and precision, and no traces left. Our business is a serious one, and we shall certainly do so."

"It's a horrible affair!" Ezra said, with a shudder. "I wish I was out of it."

"You won't think that to-morrow morning when you realise that the firm is saved and no one the wiser. He has gone on. Don't lose sight of him."

They both hurried out, and found Burt standing in front of the door. It was blowing half a gale now, and the wind was bitterly cold. There came a melancholy rasping and rustling from the leafless wood, and every now and again a sharp cracking sound would announce that some rotten branch had come crashing down. The clouds drove across the face of the moon, so that at times the old, clear light silvered the dark wood and the old monastery, while at others all was plunged in darkness. From the open door a broad golden light was shot across the lawn from the lamp in the hall. The three dark figures with their long fantastic shadows looked eerie and unnatural in the yellow glare.

"Are we to have a lantern?" asked Burt.

"No, no," cried Ezra. "We shall see quite enough as it is. We don't want a light."

"I have one," said the father. "We can use it if it is necessary. I think we had better take our places now. She may come sooner than we expect. It will be well to leave the door open. She will see that there is no obstacle in the way."

"You're not half sharp enough," said Ezra. "If the door was left like that it might suggest a trap to her. Better close the dining-room door and then leave the hall door just a little ajar. That would look more natural. She would conclude that Burt and you were in there."

"Where are Jorrocks and Rebecca?" Girdlestone, asked closing the door as suggested.

"Jorrocks is in his room. Rebecca, I have no doubt, is in hers also."

"Things look safe enough. Come along, Burt. This way."

The three tramped their way across the gravelled drive and over the slushy grass to the border of the wood.

"This is the withered oak," said Girdlestone, as a dark mass loomed in front of them. It stood somewhat apart from the other trees, and the shadow of its bare branches was cast upon the ground. Burt walked round the great trunk and made as careful an examination of the ground as he could in the dark.

"Would the lantern be of any use to you?" Girdlestone asked.

"No. It's all serene. I think I know how to fix it now. You two can get behind those trees, or where you like, as long as you're not in the way. I don't want to be seen. When I am ready, I'll have the lantern lit. I'll have it through in a workman-like manner. I don't want nobody else foolin' around."

"We would not dream of interfering with your arrangements," said Girdlestone.

"You'd better not!" Burt growled. "I'll lay down behind this oak, d'ye see. When she comes she'll think as he's not arrived yet, and she'll get standin' around and waitin'. When I see my chance I'll get behind her, and she'll know that there is no obstacle in the way."

"Excellent!" cried John Girdlestone. "Excellent! We had best get into our places."

"Mind you do it all in one crack," Ezra said. "Don't let us have any crying out afterwards. I could stand a good deal, but not that."

"You should know how I hit," Burt remarked with a malicious grin which was hidden from his companion. "If your head wasn't well nigh solid you wouldn't be here now."

Ezra, though usually resolute and daring, had completely lost his nerve, and his teeth were chattering. He had heard his father, on the other hand, was as emotionless and impassive as ever.

"It's close upon nine o'clock," Ezra whispered. "Ten minutes to," said the other, peering at his great golden chronometer through the darkness.

"What if she fails to come?"

"We must devise other means of bringing her out."

From the spot where they stood they had a view of the whole of the Priory. They could not come out without being seen, but the door was a long narrow window which opened upon the staircase. In this Girdlestone and his son fixed their eyes, for they knew that on her way down she would be visible at it. As they looked, the dim light which shone through it was obscured and then reappeared.

"She has passed!"

"Hush!"

Another moment and the door was stealthily opened. Once again the broad golden bar shot out across the lawn almost to the spot where the confederates were crouching. In the centre of the zone of light there stood a figure—the figure of the girl. Even at that distance they could distinguish the pearl-grey mantle which she usually wore and the close-fitting bonnet. She had wrapped a shawl round the lower part of her face to protect her from the boisterous wind. For a minute or more she stood peering out into the darkness of the night, as though uncertain whether to proceed or to go back. Then, with a quick, sudden gesture she closed the door behind her. The light was no longer there, but they knew that she was outside the house, and that the appointment would be kept.

What an age it seemed before they heard her footsteps. She came very slowly, putting one foot gingerly before the other, as if afraid of falling over something in the darkness. Once or twice she stopped altogether, looking round, no doubt, to make sure of her whereabouts. She did not seem to have any idea of the danger she was in, and they saw her dark figure a short distance off. The light enabled her to see the withered oak, for she came rapidly towards it. As she approached she satisfied herself apparently that she was the first on the ground, for she slackened her pace once more and walked in the listless way that people assume when they are waiting. The clouds were overtaking the moon again, and the light was getting dimmer.

"I can see her still," said Ezra in a whisper, gripping his father's wrist in his excitement. The old man said nothing, but he peered through the darkness with eager, straining eyes. "There she is, standing out a little from the oak," the young merchant said, pointing with a quivering finger. "She's not near enough for him to reach her."

In its silvery radiance two figures stood out hard and black, that of the unconscious girl and of the man who crouched like a beast of prey behind her. He made a step forward, which brought him within a yard of her. She may have heard the heavy footfall above the shriek of the storm, for she turned suddenly and faced him. At the same instant she was struck down with a crashing blow. There was no time for a prayer, no time for a scream. One moment she was a magnificent beauty in all the pride of her youthful beauty, the next she lay a poor battered senseless wreck. The navy had earned his blood-money.

At the sound of the blow and the sight of the fall both the old man and the young ran out from their place of concealment. Burt was standing over the body, his bloodgown in his hand.

"Not even a groan!" he said. "What d'ye think of that?"

Girdlestone wrung his hand and congratulated him warmly. "Shall I light the lantern?" he asked.

"For God's sake, don't!" Ezra said earnestly. "I had no idea that you were so faint-hearted, my son," the merchant remarked. "However, I know the way to the gate well enough to go there blindfold. What a comfort it is to know that there is no blood about! That's the advantage of a stick over a knife."

"You're correct there, guv'nor," Burt said, approvingly.

"Will you kindly carry one end and I'll take the other. I'll go first, if you don't mind, because I know the way best. The train will pass in less than half an hour, so we have not long to wait. Within that time every chance of detection will have gone."

Girdlestone raised up the head of the murdered girl, and Burt took her feet. Ezra walked behind as though he were in some dreadful dream. He had fully recognised the necessity for the murder, but he had never before realised how ghastly the details would be. Already he had begun to repent that he had ever acquiesced in it. Then came thoughts of the splendid possibilities of the African business, which could only be saved from destruction by this woman's death. How could he, with his high tastes, bear the squalor and poverty which would be his lot were the firm to fail. Better a rope and a long drop than such a life as that! All these considerations thronged into his mind as he plodded along the slippery footpath which led through the forest to the wooden gate.

(To be continued.)

## EXTRAORDINARY CHARGE OF ROBBERY.

William Michael Stanhope, 32, a well-dressed man, described as a canvassing agent, living in Western-road, Bayswater, was charged at the Westminster Police Court, on a warrant, with stealing, on the 6th March, a half-hoop diamond ring, of the value of twelve guineas, from a young woman named Brooks, living in Trevor-square, Knightsbridge. Mr. Dutton appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Norman for the prisoner.

One day last week the prosecutrix and another young woman living with her appeared before Mr. D'Eyncourt on a charge of stealing a watch valued by the man who gave them into custody at £26, but said in court to be of base metal and not worth as many shillings. They asserted that they were the victim of an audacious scoundrel, who made an absolutely false charge against them in the street, and had them locked up merely to prevent them from running away with the watch some weeks before when he accompanied the prosecutrix to her house. The magistrate discharged the women and granted a warrant against the man, who signed the charge-sheet against them in the name of Frederick White, giving a false address at Kensington.—The prosecutrix now deposed that she was pursuing an immoral life, and that the prisoner was the man who made the false charge against her and her friend. On the 5th March she met him casually in Piccadilly, and he accompanied her home. He told her that he was an officer in the Horse Guards, spoke about having to go to barracks, and on the following morning, on her accompanying him to his hotel in Burlington Gardens to breakfast, at his suggestion, so that she should not be "too showy," she took off a valuable diamond ring she was wearing, and put it in her purse, placing the same in her pocket.

Prisoner, who had examined the ring, suddenly said he must telegraph to barracks, and she unsuspectingly left him while she went, at his request, to fetch a telegraph form and a cup of coffee. When she returned he said that he should like some wine, and, refusing the servant's offer to get it, said he would obtain it himself, for it would be a better quality. He pulled off his finger a thick metal ring, which looked like a band of gold, and asked her acceptance of it. After he had left the house, ostensibly to fetch the wine, she discovered that her diamond ring had been abstracted from the purse in her dress, and that the ring left behind was worthless. The same day she gave information to the police, and although she and her friends were continually on the look out for the prisoner they saw no more of him until late on the night of the 9th inst., when she again met him with a well-dressed young woman in Piccadilly, and, seizing his arm, she demanded the return of her property. Prisoner exclaimed, "For God's sake don't show me up here!" and almost forcing her and her female friend into a passing cab, got in after them and ordered the cabman to drive west.

In the cab he put in her hand a watch, which she said was of great value, and trying to persuade her that she had made a mistake, told her to keep the watch. They were driving, when the prisoner urged the cabman to drive faster, and witness, with a view of charging the prisoner, actually jumped into the road from the footboard of the vehicle while going at full speed. A policeman came up, and, to her astonishment and before she could explain, prisoner coolly charged her and her friend with deliberately stealing his watch. They opened, and the prisoner told her that when the magistrate discharged them and granted a warrant for her felony against their accuser, who failed to attend.—Mr. Norman intimated that the prisoner's defence would be a denial that he was the man who accompanied the prosecutrix home on the 5th inst.—Inspector Ross, B Division, said he took the charge against the young women preferred by the prisoner, and then Brooks protested that she had been robbed of a ring.—Mr. D'Eyncourt remanded the prisoner for a week, and refused bail.

## A TERRIBLE REVENGE.

A telegram from Loganport, Indiana, states that two young men, named William Davis and John Hill, had been paying their addresses to Lucinda Brooks and Ida Askew, daughters of respectable tradesmen, having both been rejected by the girls for reasons of their own. They asked the girls to take a walk, and while they invited them to dine at a restaurant. During dinner they ordered a bottle of champagne, and they then placed arsenic in the girls' glasses. Lucinda Brooks is dead and Ida Askew is in a dying condition. The murderers have been arrested. A Reuter's telegram states that the men made good their escape. The popular feeling against them is so strong that it is feared they will be lynched if caught.

The rectory at Beckenham, the residence of the Rev. Henry Arnott, has been entered by burglars, and jewellery worth over £250 stolen from the library. A window had been forced, and the drawers in which the jewellery were kept were opened with the help of a centrobite. A previous attempt was made to enter the residence of Mr. C. Lea Wilson.

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## CHILD MURDER AT NUNHEAD.

On Monday Mr. G. P. Wyatt held an inquest at the George and Dragon, St. George's-road, Camberwell, on the body of a female child found on the 13th inst. in a new building in Limesford-road, Nunhead.—Dr. Esler, divisional surgeon, said the body was wrapped in brown paper. It was well developed, and there was a deep indentation round the neck. A post mortem showed that death was due to strangulation, to effect which a cloth or cord must have been tightly tied round the neck. To all appearances the child had lived some time after birth



**OLD IZAAK,**

In opposition to the hard and fast close time fixed by the Fresh Water Fisheries Act, 1858, the Lea Conservancy Board have issued the following regulations for the guidance of anglers fishing in that river. It is claimed by the conservators that they have a distinct advantage over the rules pertaining to the Thames. They

**PIPER PAN.**

seldom rise before noon. The H.P. arrived at  
after twelve o'clock, and was shown into  
drawing-room of the E.C. He had not been th  
long before he was attracted by the sight o  
the nearly new Broadwood grand, opened it,  
examined it, and could not resist the temptatio  
playing one of his own compositions, a fearfu  
and wonderfully made set of variations on

## THE ACTOR.

I have been rather amused by the surprise evinced by some of the critics at the success with which Mr. Alexander plays the light comedy hero in "Dr. Bill." They cannot have followed his career very carefully—even that part of it which has been passed in London. Why, his very first rôle in the metropolis was that of Caleb Decatur in "Two Roses," which is full of quiet humour, and enabled the young actor to show that he was something more than a jeune premier.

A little girl who had attended the final performance of "Jack and the Beanstalk" at Drury Lane on the 15th inst. was taken to church, in course, next morning. As it happened, the pulpit was filled by an outsider, who lent emphasis to his eloquence by all manner of grimaces.

**MR. WHEELER.**

Perhaps some day we shall see sailing powered adapted to cycles. A young friend of mine, of an ingenious turn, has designed—only on paper as yet—a folding contrivance on the umbrella principle, which he believes might be used on tricycles with advantage, when wind was wanted, and when it was absent. At other times it could be stowed away, and, being very light, the weight would not be materially against the rider. He claims that a sail would be a help whenever the wind was either dead astern, or what Jack calls "abait the beam" on either side. As he has no intention of patenting the idea, it is open to the world of genius to take up the subject.

The Catford C.C. turned out ninety strong at their first run of the season to Middlesex, where a smoking concert of exceptional excellence rewarded their exertions. Advantage was taken of the occasion to present an illuminated address to Mr. Charles Sisley, the honorary secretary, a token of gratitude for his unceasing and most successful endeavours to promote the prosperity of the club.

"SARTRETS"—Clearance Bargains. 600 Solved Machines! \$4.10. Special prices to Agents. "Cyclopedia" all Round, Soiled, only £5.10. Send for 1900 New and Second-hand Lists. Easy Payments, etc. Cycle Fittings, Special Prices. Bicycles from 2 s.; Tricycles, 5s. Riding School till 8.30 p.m.—CYCLODOL, 7A, Blackfriars-road.-(ADV.)

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Lord Randolph Churchill has addressed to Mr. James Edmeston, chairman of the



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H	HOLLANDS.-DECORATORS, WALL PAPERING and PAPERS, PARQUET FLOORS.

### PRINCE BISMARCK'S RETIREMENT.

The causes of his retirement have, however, but a limited interest for the public outside Germany. It is the effect of his disappearance from the control of the foreign relations of the German empire that is, and must be, of such supreme importance. Prince BISMARCK has directed the policy of the empire for twenty years. He has dictated absolutely the course to be pursued by the mighty political and military organisation which he himself created. More than that, he has been the arbiter of European peace or war all that time, and with that tremendous responsibility resting on his shoulders he has consistently striven to prevent the unloosing of that mighty flood-gate of devastation, a great European war. At the present time the most effectual guarantee of European peace is the Triple Alliance between Germany, Austria, and Italy. Against this unyielding barrier of bayonets the ambition of Russia and the dreams of France of a war of revenge have shattered themselves in vain, and peace has been preserved through years when war was regarded in the diplomatic world as all but inevitable. The Triple Alliance, however, would never have been established but for Prince BISMARCK, and ever since its establishment it might, at any time, have been rendered ineffectual for its pacific purpose but for the strong and yet delicate control which the great CHANCELLOR alone knew how to exercise. The great CHANCELLOR is gone, and the great alliance

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# The People.

Offices; MILFORD-LANE, STRAND, W.C.

"IN THE MIDDLE ORDER OF MARKING AND  
COUNTER-MARKING, ALL THE ARTS

WISDOM AND VIRTUE OF SOCIETY. THIS  
ALONE IS KNOWN TO BE THE TRUE  
PRESERVER OF FREEDOM, AND MAY BE CALLED  
'THE PEOPLE.'—*Vicar of Wakefield*, chap. 19.

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**PRINCE BISMARCK'S RETIREMENT.**

Foreign affairs overshadow this week the importance of anything that is taking place at home. The fact that this is so emphatically true, not only in England, but in every continental country, is the highest compliment which can be paid to the genius of the man whose action is the cause of such unwanted excitement all over Europe. Prince Bismarck has resigned all his offices, both in the

German Empire and the kingdom of Prussia, and all the world is wondering, in undisguised anxiety, what is going to happen in consequence of that resignation. In one sense, the final retirement of the "man of blood and iron" was unexpected, in another sense it was not. It was unexpected, because Prince BISMARCK has so often threatened to resign and has not carried out the threat. A "Chancellor crisis," as the Germans call it, has been a regular device to obtain the consent of Parliament to some project, particularly to increased grants of men or money for military purposes. In fact, the CHANCELLOR raised the cry of "Wolf" so often

that the German people could with difficulty believe that he really meant his resignation to be accepted by the EMPEROR. On the other hand, it has been a matter of common knowledge for some time past that differences have existed between the veteran Minister and the youthful and energetic Sovereign who means to rule as well as to reign in Germany, and who has already displayed a firmness of purpose and a fixed determination to have his own way not inferior to those of the IRON CHANCELLOR himself. The action of the EMPEROR WILLIAM in stepping out boldly to meet the leaders of the Socialist movement in Germany upon their own ground instead of

enforcing the Bismarckian system of ruthless repression, must necessarily be regarded by the CHANCELLOR as a reversal of his own policy; and the general attitude of the EMPEROR in reference to social and industrial questions, which has resulted in the labour conference at Berlin, is certainly quite opposed to Prince BISMARCK's old world ideas on these subjects. That the EMPEROR is right in his courageous attempt to face the difficulties of the day in a thorough modern spirit is beyond all dispute, whatever may be the practical results of his efforts; but to expect Prince BISMARCK to approve the new generation would be to expect to

much. Besides differences with the Sovereign Prince BISMARCK has troubles with the Reichstag. The collapse at the recent general election of the party on which he has relied for support would have forced him, had he remained in office, to look out for another Parliamentary combination, and doubtless he feels too old to do that, and, wise in time, he elects to retire with undiminished prestige amidst the admiration of the world for his past achievements.

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of the German empire that is, and must be of such supreme importance. Prince BISMARCK has directed the policy of the empire for twenty years. He has dictated absolutely the course to be pursued by the mighty political and military organisation which he himself created. More than that, he has been the arbiter of European peace or war all that time, and with that tremendous responsibility resting on his shoulders he has consistently striven to prevent the unloosing of the mighty flood-gate of devastation, a great European war. At the present time the most effectual guarantee of European peace is the Triple Alliance between Germany, Austria, and

Italy. Against this unyielding barrier bayonets the ambition of Russia and the dreams of France of a war of revenge have shattered themselves in vain, and peace has been preserved through years when war was regarded in the diplomatic world as all but inevitable. The Triple Alliance, however, would never have been established but for Prince BISMARCK and ever since its establishment it might, any time, have been rendered ineffectual for any purpose but for the strong and delicate control which the great CHANCELLOR alone knew how to exercise. The great CHANCELLOR is gone, and the great alliance



**ALLEGED LIBEL ON AN OPERATIC  
TENOR.**

At the Liverpool Assizes on Thursday, Mr. Payne Clarke, tenor of the Carl Rosa Opera Company, sued the editor and printer of the *Ladies' Pictorial* paper for damages for an alleged libel published in that paper. Defendants pleaded that they were not liable for any libel complained of, and also that the article was a fair criticism. The alleged libel was contained in a communication from a Dublin correspondent on plaintiff's representation of "Faust." The writer said "Faust" was "a mere lady figure, and seemingly less occupied by the charms of his beloved than in watching the side virgins for the possible appearance of her husband or other male relative armed with a big stick." Further on, in noticing a concert at which Mr. "Clarke sang, the writer said, "Mr. Payne Clarke sang, 'The Last Watch,' with barrel-organ sameness of intonation," and so on.—The jury awarded plaintiff £60 damages.

**THE MURDER OF AN ENGLISHMAN  
IN CANADA.**

The hearing of the charge against Mrs. Burchell of complicity with her husband in the charge of murdering Mr. Benwell, near Princeton, Ontario, was continued on Wednesday at Niagara Falls, and there being no evidence against her she was discharged. A great crowd assembled in and around the court. Mrs. was dressed in half-mourning and looked very ill, being too weak to stand without assistance. When the court ordered her discharge she burst into tears, and buried her face in her handkerchief. She subsequently stated that she had entire faith in her husband's innocence. "It is all a horrible mistake," she said, "and the future will prove it to be so." She will at once proceed to Woodstock, Ontario, where she will be required to appear before the magistrate and give evidence.

**THE ENLARGEMENT OF EPPING  
FOREST.**

Sir T. F. Burton and Mr. E. N. Burton have

## THE VOLUNTEERS.

at Oak Hill, Theydon Bois, containing about 12 acres, and there is now no break in the continuity of the forest between the two woods from the Wake Arms to Theydon Bois, while the area of the forest, including Wanstead Park, is 5,542 acres. The Epping Forest Committee of the City Corporation say they have given very careful consideration to the question of thinning the densest portions of the forest, about 100 acres, in the Wake Arms. They found that in every instance where the forest had had time to recover itself that the underwood was springing up and the trees had benefited by the admission of more light and air and by having more room for growth. No blackthorn or undergrowth is to be cut, except where it is necessary for the growth of neighbouring trees. The amount expended on the forest last year was £2,891, and this time was £1,061.

**"NA NONNA" ON HASTINGS.**  
A case of the new trachea disease known as "N Nonna" is reported from St. Leonards. It is stated that a gentleman staying at an hotel in the western part of the borough, who has had influenza, was bed-ridden evening at the usual time, and coming down at the customary hour the next morning his room was entered, and he

### A PENALTY FOR OVERLAYING.

Dr. AN M.P. ON CREMATION.

Dr. Farquharson, M.P., presided at a lecture given in the Eon Public Hall, Brixton, on cremation. The hon. member has already advocated in the House of Commons the cremation of the body. The lecturer was Mr. Swinburne Hanham, who, father and mother both were cremated.—The chairman remarked that the method of disposal of the dead did not, perhaps, matter much to the individual, but it did matter very much to the

### CURIOUS CHARGE OF ASSAULT.

[illegible]

## A FORTY DAYS' FAST.

A correspondent from Siberia sends to the *Daily News* a special account of the recent shooting and political aspects at Irkutsk. They were partly the thirty who were sent there last summer on the charge of the Zurich massacre. It is not known whether the suspects found employment in Siberia, and everything went on peacefully. Then one day the governor of Irkutsk received a telegram from the police department at St. Petersburg. He was told that thousands of seditious proclamations had been distributed in various provinces of European Russia, and that there were good reasons for supposing that these proclamations had been sent from Irkutsk. The governor set to work in despair; he at once ordered a search to be made, and the police did discover a small printing office. They found at the same time that the revolutionaries had won over several Cossacks of the Baital to the "Red Cause," and that it was these soldiers who were forming the escort of the last gold transport from Irkutsk to St. Petersburg, had taken with them the proclamations with the aim of selling them to their friends in Moscow. Those who were compromised among the thirty were immediately arrested, and have since been punished with hard labour in the mines. The others were summoned to the governor's house, and told that they were shortly to be sent far away to the most distant and wild districts. The unfortunate men and women begged the governor to let them stay in Irkutsk, which is of course a paradise compared with the rough shores of the Polar Sea; and they prayed in vain. They then resolved to save their lives as dearly as possible. They assembled in a house, which they barricaded as well as they could, and it seems that friendly Siberians provided them with arms and ammunition. When the governor and his soldiers arrived, they were

## ARREST OF AN ENGLISHMAN IN TURKEY.

which it was, of course, a paradise compared with the rough shores of the Far Sea. The Russians, however, did not intend to live there. They then resolved to take their lives as cheaply as possible. They assembled in a house, which they barricaded as well as they could, and it seems that friendly Siberians provided them with arms and ammunition. When the governor and his soldiers arrived, they were received with a heavy fire, which killed and wounded several, and, as the Russians were not prepared to surrender, a fierce fight began, but did not last long; most of the besieged were wounded or killed. The young man I suppose to be the ring-leader, who had been brought to the Isarotto dangerously wounded, was a short time afterwards taken out to be hanged.



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Frazer's Sulphur Tablets are for internal use for the Blood, Skin, Complexion, Rheumatism, and Constipation. They are put up in packets, price is 1/-, post free is 1s. 6d., and are for sale by most Chemists and Medicine Vendors. Sole Proprietors, **FRAZER AND CO., 22, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.**







# 'THE PEOPLE' MIXTURE.

Ireland spends 25,000,000 a year on whisky. The Government realises 211,300 a year for waste paper.

The lowest temperature in London this year was 31° 8 on the 3rd of March.

As late as 1773 Queen Mariana Victoria of Portugal always rode astride.

No less than 35,000 awards for saving life have been made by the National Lifeboat Institution.

Mr. Gladstone will spend the Easter recess at Hawarden Castle.

There were 2,717 births and 1,771 deaths in the metropolis last week.

Birkenhead had last week the remarkably low birth-rate of 14·4 per 1,000 per annum.

Nearly every village in Cyprus is suffering from influenza.

The singular intelligence comes that Mr. Louis Stevenson means to make Samoa his home.

Feather boas are all the fashion this spring. The prettiest are those made of white or of black cock's feathers.

Last week the deaths in London from influenza declined to eleven; in the previous week they numbered twenty-four.

The total sum paid to the Bank of England for its trouble, outlay, and responsibility over Mr. Goschen's scheme of conversion was 298,248, and to the Bank of Ireland 23,293.

We had not so many deaths from diseases of the respiratory organs in London last week. They numbered 447—a decline on the previous week of sixty-three.

There were twelve cases of suicide in the metropolis last week and two of murder and manslaughter. Sixty-two deaths were attributed to accident or negligence.

Once more we have to report that there was not last week a single death from small-pox in any of the twenty-eight chief towns in England and Wales.

At Stafford Armes, three well-known poachers belonging to Wolverhampton were sentenced to fifteen years, and another man to six years' penal servitude, for a murderous assault on three of Lord Wrottesley's gamekeepers in November last.

Poor Ja Ja! Of a truth trouble comes to him as the sparks fly upwards. His house at Kingston, St. Vincent, has now been partially burnt down.

The Prince of Wales, on behalf of the Queen, held the second levee of the season at St. James's Palace on Monday. There was a large attendance among those present being Lord Salisbury, Lord Cross, and Mr. W. H. Smith.

There were thirty-five fatal cases of measles in London last week, eighteen of scarlet fever, twenty-five of diphtheria, and eighteen of whooping-cough, three of enteric fever, and fourteen of diarrhoea and dysentery.

The village of Gampel, near Brig, in the Canton Valais, has been destroyed by fire. Three hundred persons have been rendered homeless and destitute, and numbers of cattle and goats have perished.

An extensive fire has occurred at Regina, North-west Territories, by which an entire block of twelve buildings, occupied by business firms, was gutted and the contents destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$100,000.

There are in Europe over 1,300 beet sugar factories, using 21,000,000 tons of beet grown on 2,250,000 acres. About 2,600,000 tons of sugar and 800,000 tons of treacle are supposed to be extracted.

A movement is on foot among the governing body of St. Bartholomew's Hospital to procure a full-length portrait of Sir Sydney Waterlow, who since the year 1861 has discharged the duties of treasurer of the institution. Professor Hubert Herkomer, A.R.S.A., has been selected to paint it.

Take exercise by all means, but take it not in fits and starts, but in a regular and systematic way. Such is the view of the members of the Society of Medical Officers of Health, who have been discussing in Manchester the hygiene of exercise.

Taking the wheat crop for the whole of Great Britain for 1889 there appears an increase of 63 per cent. on the quantity gathered from each acre when compared with 1888, but of rather less than a quarter of a bushel when compared with the mean of that and the preceding four years.

The decline in favour of the China teas in this country has never been so marked as this year. The number of orders in Ming-sing for the forthcoming season has fallen so seriously that many buyers and tasters have decided not to go out to Hankow or Poochow at all this year.

Guernsey feeds its own population and sends 400,000 packets of garden produce to Covent Garden annually. If Boulangier had gone to exile in Guernsey instead of Jersey, it is estimated that this export would, for the time being, have suffered a considerable reduction. No braver general still has an appetite.

The 500 deer which have for years been maintained in the Home Park, Hampton Court, are being removed to Richmond and Bushey Parks. The authorities, it is believed, are actuated in this step by economical reasons, and it is understood that cattle, which are more profitable, are in future to be reared in these beautiful pastures.

A terrible tragedy has occurred at Hastings, Nebraska. Amos Stanton, who for some time has been warring against William Lewis, met the latter in a store and shot him dead. Short shrift only was given to the murderer, for he quickly assembled a crowd and dragged him to a neighbouring tree, and having suspended him from a bough, riddled his body with revolver shots.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Northern Technical and Scientific Institute, the hon. secretary announced the receipt of a cheque for £1,000 from Sir James Tyler, adding that, although confined to his bed by a serious and painful illness, Sir James had not overlooked either his early association with this movement or the necessities of North London.

The seventy-eight Salvation Army officers stationed at the twenty-six "almshouses" have in the past year held 8,115 open-air meetings, 9,533 indoor meetings, visited 120,000 families, spending 54,000 hours in so doing; prayed with 70,000 families; visited 11,518 public-houses and 2,773 lodging-houses; visited and nursed 4,000 persons; received 9,785 garments for distribution; relieved 6,567 persons, and nursed 6,233 children in cradles.

Five pence for a pair of boots cannot be regarded as extravagant. A firm in South London offered to supply the guardians of St. Saviour's, South-west, with boots and shoes at prices ranging from 1d. to 1s. Ten guardians against eight decided that even paupers are entitled to more substantial, if not more showy, footwear than can be expected for 5d. per pair, and a new tender is to be asked for.

The receipts on account of revenue from the 1st of April, 1889, when there was a balance of £2,592,002, to the 13th of March, 1890, were £24,400,517, against £23,672,122 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with the balance of £2,677,792. The net expenditure was £27,731,691, against £27,200,844 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on the 15th of March, 1890, amounted to £2,207,754, and at the same date in 1889 to £2,748,193.

An alarming accident occurred in South London the other morning. Several houses in the Old Kent-road have for some time past been in process of demolition, and about ten o'clock the greater portion of two of them suddenly fell in. Five men were buried in the ruins, and great anxiety was felt concerning their fate. They were soon extricated, however, and it was found that two of them had sustained serious injuries; one (John Anders) having both legs broken, and the other (Edwin Cooper) sustaining fractures of one arm

and several ribs. (The other men escaped with mere cuts and bruises.)

Prince Albert Victor is expected to arrive at Cairo on the 6th prox., on his return from India.

It is proposed to hold a grand Volunteer review at Montreal on the occasion of the visit of the Duke of Connaught.

The local authorities at Samarang have under consideration a project for lighting the city by electricity.

A Dalsiel's telegram from New York states that the sale of the season tickets for twenty performances of the Adelphi Patti company is closed. The amount realised is £19,400.

The French anti-Semitic party intends to bring forward a number of anti-Semitic candidates to contest the forthcoming Paris municipal elections.

A strong shock of earthquake has been felt at Malaga and the neighbouring towns. The inhabitants were greatly alarmed, but no damage is reported.

The experiment of homing pigeons in India has proved a failure. The pigeons have been sold, their houses demolished, and the materials sold by auction.

Experiments in the cultivation of tobacco from Dutch Borneo and British Borneo seed are to be undertaken in several parts of the Madras Presidency.

M.P. (in cab stopped at entrance of the House of Commons on night of count-out): What! House counted out?—Policeman: Yes, sir; counted out ten minutes ago.—M.P. (to cabbie): Drive to the Empire.

At the London (South) Sessions, Stephen Divell was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude for housebreaking at Brixton and Peckham. The prisoner belonged to a notorious gang of burglars, three of whom were now undergoing terms of penal servitude.

The excitement of the week at Monte Carlo was an extraordinary run of luck which attended the play of Mr. E. J. Pape, who will have good reason for remembering the number 32, which coming up twice three times in succession brought him nearly 100,000 francs.

Owing to Sir William Houldsworth's absence from the House of Commons during the Berlin Labour Conference, Mr. Samuel Smith will withdraw his motion in favour of an international conference on bimetalism, and a fresh ballot will be taken to obtain, if possible, a Tuesday instead of a Friday for the discussion of the motion.

The Glen of Bothies, a fine mansion belonging to Mrs. Dunbar Dunbar, of Seapark, and situated about seven miles from Elgin, has been burned to the ground. Only a few articles of furniture were saved, and the damage is estimated at £10,000. The Glen of Bothies was one of the finest mansions in Morayshire.

James Hardy Waller, of Edmonstone, son of a commercial traveller, was killed at the level crossing over the Great Eastern Railway near Angel-road, Edmonstone, when he was crossing the line on his way to school when he was knocked down by a goods train and carried thirty yards. The body was terribly mutilated and death was instantaneous.

The return of metropolitan pauperism for the first week of March shows that the total number of paupers was 100,642. Of these 61,294 were indoor and 39,348 outdoor. The number for the corresponding period of 1889 was 106,391; for 1888, 113,251; and for 1887, 103,996. The total number of vagrants relieved during the same period was 842, including 702 men, 130 women, and 10 children.

Last week at Navan, county Meath, a young physician, Dr. Nicholas, was directed to hold a post-mortem examination on a woman who met a violent death. During the operation the doctor gave himself a slight cut on the hand, to which he attached but slight importance. Blood-poisoning afterwards set in, however, and his death is now reported.

The total amount received from all sources for the sufferers by the Lanerch Colliery disaster, where 178 miners lost their lives, borders upon £20,000, of which £5,400 has been received at Newport, £5,000 at the Mansion House, and the remainder from other parts of the country.

The question of M. Zola's candidature for a seat in the French Academy is again under discussion. The author of "La Bête Humaine" has paid the customary visits required from candidates who aspire to a place among the "Immortals," and it is announced that he has lately lunched at Chantilly with the Duc d'Aumale. M. Zola himself, however, has already said that he is not sanguine as to his chances of election.

At the Aberdeen Police Court, Llewellyn Dooling, for smoking in Craig Colliery, of the Dooling's Company, and John Rule, for unauthorising a charge that had missed fire at Forchman Colliery, have each been fined 40s. and costs. The magistrate said they would be very much inclined in any future case it appeared that life had been endangered to send defendants to goal without giving them the option of paying a fine.

An Albany telegram states that a man, an ex-State senator, who was sentenced to ten years' hard labour for bank-robbing some time ago, but admitted to bail pending an appeal, and subsequently announced as dead, is now stated to be alive and residing in Mexico. It seems that the opportune death of a man named Gardner enabled his friends to have the body buried under the same name.

The bodies of two little children have been discovered in a strong box which had been placed in a baggage van at the railway station in Borne. Their hands and feet were injured and blood-stained. On inquiry being made, it was discovered that they were the children of a poor woman, who had been searching for them for five or six days. It is supposed that they found the strong box open and entered it in play, when the door closed upon them automatically.

At Sunderland, a court of inquiry has suspended for six months the certificates of David Gray (master) and William Phillips (mate), of the steamer Florence Nightingale, which struck on the French coast in the Channel on February 23, becoming a total wreck. Both officers had mistaken the Cayeux light for Point d'Ally, on the passage to Dieppe, coal-laden, with a crew of sixteen hands. The court said the fact of so many lives being endangered was the misconduct of the captain and mate most serious.

The gold medal, given for the best series of exhibits in professional portraiture at the Crystal Palace Photographic Exhibition, has been awarded by the judges to Lafayette, of Dublin. The first national challenge cup, competed for by recognised photographic associations, has been awarded to the Birmingham Photographic Society, and the special silver medal, awarded for the best series of pictures in the lady amateur class, has been given by Miss Clarissa Miles. The exhibition will close on Saturday night, March 23th.

Mr. Langham, City coroner, has been informed of the death by drowning of John Hughes, seaman on board the steamship Livonia, whose dead body was found floating in the river near the Custom House. It seems that a week ago a man fell overboard, and the deceased, who was once jumped into the water and endeavoured to effect a rescue. He himself sank, and although endeavours were made to save him, he was not again seen alive. The man who fell overboard was, however, rescued.

Mr. Wynne Baxter held an inquest at the Shadwell Vestry Hall on the body of Ellen Carr, aged 27, the wife of a gas stoker, living at 22 Canal-road, Mile End, who met with her death by jumping into the water to cross the Glamis-road Bridge, Wapping, while it was being swung, and being crushed between the bridge and the wall. Contradictory evidence was given as to the precautions taken to prevent persons crossing the bridge; and the jury, in returning a verdict of accidental death, recommended that dock constables

should be placed on the bridge while it was being swung.

The French Government disburses £2,200 per annum for the destruction of wolves.

A Norwegian engineer has devised a machine to pack 1,000 boxes of matches in a minute.

Potatoes to the weight of 23,097,263 tons were grown in Great Britain last year, as against 24,674,981 tons in the previous year.

A new bridge is to be engineered over the St. Lawrence, at Montreal, at a cost of £600,000. It will be two miles long.

Kurrachee must be a dry place; 1,116 gallons of beer were despatched thence from the port of London in January.

A Chancery-lane solicitor used to have a standing notice on his door, "Back at 10 to 1." A Welsh client wrote underneath "10 to 1 you won't."

Fifteen years ago the first cotton mill was established in Canada. There are now twenty-four mills, containing 600,000 spindles.

Adam Irving, a Dumfriesshire shoemaker, recently pricked his thumb with an awl. Blood poisoning set in, and he died.

It has been found possible by flashing powerful electric light upon the clouds, to signal messages to a distance of over sixty miles.

In five months the Band of Hope Union lecturers have delivered 1,473 lectures, at which 180,000 young people have been present.

The total produce of wheat in Great Britain in 1889 was 73,262,773 bushels, compared with 71,939,847 bushels in the previous year.

English syndicates have invested £280,000 in Chicago breweries, £200,000 in New York breweries, and £2,400,000 in St. Louis breweries.

A boy at Forestville, U.S.A., found a blasting cartridge in his father's coal shed the other day. He hit it with a hammer, and drove the nail of his own coffin.

During his stay at Oxford in May Mr. Chamberlain will be the guest of Mr. Brodick, the warden of Merton, the gentleman who figured for a brief space before the special commission.

There is some talk in medical circles of legislation dealing with infant suffocation. Twenty little ones under twelve months old died from suffocation—"overlying"—in London last week.

The chief of police at Saratoga has invented a system of killing stray dogs by means of ordinary coal gas; he suffocates them in a box, and about a minute and a half suffices for the operation.

Lord Hartington will leave Alexandria on Monday for Brindisi in the Peninsular and Oriental steamer Cathay. He will remain in the south of France for two or three weeks before returning to London.

There is a rather daring innovation in opera jackets. They are made of emerald China silk crepe, very richly embroidered with innumerable shades of silk, and with a parti-coloured fringe to match.

The fire-box of the mail train from Cork to Skibbereen and Bantry was burned out when near Ballinahassig, ten miles from Cork. The train was consequently unable to proceed, but beyond a delay of three hours no loss or inconvenience was suffered.

Circus people, says Mr. G. A. Sala, who knows something about them, are a very peculiar race. They do not use the check of language, but they are indefatigably industrious, and as a rule they are exemplarily kind and considerate to one another.

The directors of Kew Gardens have presented the Colonial Institute with some specimens of the first crop of coffee beans grown in the New Hebrides. The beans are rather small, but great expectations are formed as to the future of this industry in the New Hebrides after the soil has become accustomed to the coffee plant.

A bill has been introduced into the Assembly at Albany which provides that the use of any substance in the manufacture of cigarettes, except pure rice paper and pure tobacco, will be punishable by a fine of £20, or three months' imprisonment. Albany smokers are anxious to see what effect the bill will have on an Act, but how the manufacturers will evade it.

Experiments have been conducted at Toulon by the French Admiralty to ascertain the practical qualities of a new signal rocket, the patent of which belongs to an English company. It was ascertained that the detonation produced by these signals could be heard at a distance of fifteen miles, and that the showers of stars thrown out by them was visible at a much greater distance.

The two prisoners, William and Ann Dickenson, who are charged with the murder of the child, Hannah Birchall, the female prisoner's daughter, at Ince, on March 5th, were again brought before the Wigan county magistrates and remanded until Tuesday, as the coroner is inquiring into the body was dressed much as he is, they do not know whether they have seen him or not.

A man named Moll, who said he was a commission agent, was charged, at the Marylebone Police Court, with obtaining money by false pretences. He had made representations to several tradesmen, upon the strength of which they had accepted cheques from him, which were returned from the bank marked "no effects." The prisoner was committed for trial.

Princess Beatrice, who was accompanied by Prince Henry of Battenberg, on Tuesday opened a sale of work at the Kensington Town Hall, in aid of the institutions and charities of the metropolis, connected with the Unwedded French Reformed Evangelical Church in St. Mary du Pontet de la Harpe.

An old man, 67 years of age, named William Wittlestone, labourer, Deepcar, near Wakefield, has been arrested on a charge of wilfully murdering his wife. Although she was 64 years of age, her husband appears to have been jealous of her, and on Monday he struck and kicked her in a most brutal manner. She died from her injuries at a quarter of the next morning. The prisoner was remanded.

An inquest was held at Brighton on the body of Mrs. Brown, wife of Mr. E. S. Brown, clerk of the course at Plumpton, and well known in racing circles. The deceased lady was suffering from dyspepsia and a slight attack of influenza, and to counteract the taste of the medicine prescribed she took peppermint lozenges. One of the lozenges stuck in her throat, and she died from asphyxia and shock. A verdict of accidental death was returned.

At Pontefract, Abraham Beaver, a cattle drover, was fined £10 and costs, and two months' imprisonment, for ill-treating a bull. It was stated that the defendant drove the bull along the Doncaster road with its head tied to its tail, and that it fell and broke one of its legs. Notwithstanding this, the defendant persisted in beating the animal to compel it to continue the journey, and it fell repeatedly, and was ultimately killed and taken away by a butcher.

An action has been tried by Mr. Justice Kekewich, in which a Mr. Little sought to recover from the London Joint Stock Bank the value of bonds and shares pledged with the bank by the plaintiff's brokers, as security for advances. His lordship held, as in a similar case decided on the 15th, that the bank ought to have made inquiries as to the ownership of the bonds when they were pledged, and that the plaintiff was entitled to have them restored to him, with the difference in their prices.

The Prince of Wales on Tuesday laid the memorial-stones of the new town hall buildings and free library, which are about to be erected for the parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields. His royal highness was accompanied by the Princess of Wales and the Princesses Victoria and Maud, and the ceremony took place in the presence of a gathering of 2,000 people. On behalf of the parishioners, Mr. W. H. Smith tendered thanks for their royal highnesses for their presence on the occasion. The prince, in reply, expressed a hope that the new buildings, which he understood was

to be erected in six months, might prove most useful and beneficial to the parish.

A vote of confidence in Lord R. Churchill will be moved in the Paddington Parliament next Tuesday.

A telegram from Hurley (Wisconsin) states that a big fire is raging in the Germania mine, and five men are reported to have been burnt to death.

A member of the New York Stock Exchange has been suspended for a year on an allegation of splitting commissions.

Sir Donald Currie has sent an official copy of the Parnell Commission report to the whole of the 8,284 electors of West Perthshire.

New South Wales now possesses 50,000,000 sheep, that is, according to the Stock Department's estimate.

The Customs House authorities at New York have seized a quantity of jewellery belonging to passengers on the steamship Werma, which was found concealed in cigar cases.

Mr. Grover Cleveland, ex-President of the United States, has refused an offer of 50,000 dollars a year to manage one of the English syndicate companies.

The dry goods house of John F. Plumber and Co., New York, has failed, the liabilities being estimated at over 1,000,000 dollars. The news has caused a sensation in trade circles.

A despatch from Ottawa says the Governor-general, Lord Stanley, will leave for England on the 26th inst., but that he will return in time to receive the Duke of Connaught in May.

A news agency reports that the accounts of the London School Board will show an increase in the expenditure upon the year of £100,000, and involving a temporary rate. The rate last year was ninepence in the pound.

Another former deputy sheriff has been arrested at New York upon a charge of accepting bribes while acting in his official capacity under the late sheriff of New York. It is stated that more indictments and arrests will follow immediately.

A new process is being introduced in the lead trade which will admit the use of inferior lead in producing lead products, and will in some degree affect the lead mining trade generally in the country.

This is the reply of Mr. Somervell, the Unionist candidate at Ayr, to a heckler. "As far as giving effect to the opinions of the people of Ireland is concerned, that is what the Unionist Government was expressly returned to do."

An unusual circumstance has marked the examination this year at Oxford for the Victoria scholarship—the blue ribbon of the University in law—none of the candidates being found qualified for the prize.

Archdeacon Farrar has decided to go abroad in April. He has long been in need of rest and health, and it is hoped that a month on the continent will be the means of restoring him to health.

William Little is the Dunbar centenary. He was banqueted the other night, and, what is more, made a brief speech, sang a couple of songs, and assured the company "there was game in the old boy yet."

Lord Randolph Churchill apparently has not given up his intention of introducing his temperance views through the medium of a bill. He has intimated that on Tuesday he will "call attention to the law of licensing," and "ask leave to introduce a bill consolidating and amending the same."

The schooner Empress, belonging to Whitstable, was towed into Dover Harbour on Thursday in a disabled condition, having been in collision near the Goodwin Sands with a French fishing smack. The whereabouts of the smack is not known, she having been long out of sight in the darkness.

The severest snowstorm experienced this winter broke over New York and the surrounding districts on Wednesday. In the city the ground was covered to the depth of six inches, and vehicular traffic and telegraphic communication were seriously impeded.

A gale from the north-east prevailed off the Tyne on Thursday and along the Durham and Northumberland coasts, accompanied by a down-pour of rain. A heavy sea was running, and several vessels were prevented from proceeding on their voyage. The Tyne fishing fleet were compelled to run back to harbour for shelter.

Fearful distress and destitution exists among the mining population of Wyoming Valley, where, as a whole, the miners have not worked more than one-quarter time since September. The people are living on boiled potato parings and bread and molasses. An appeal is being made for substantial help.

Many natives of India have a complaint to make in regard to Prince Albert Victor's visit. They complain that as the prince has no particular dress or decoration distinguish him from all other persons, and as he is generally surrounded by persons dressed much as he is, they do not know whether they have seen him or not.

At the Liverpool Assizes on Thursday, Samuel Turner, Squire, late principal clerk of the Liverpool District Registry of the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice, pleaded guilty to removing stamps from official documents and fraudulently obtaining other stamps and destroying official documents. He was sentenced to fifteen months' hard labour.

The Hope Musical Society gave their fourth annual evening concert at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon-street, on Wednesday. The artists were Madame J. Mass, Miss M. Mass, Miss Jackson, Messrs. E. Houghton, J. H. Miller, James A. Tucker, G. Holland, E. Lawford, J. James, R. Rae, R. W. Heney, and A. S. Mantell, whose united efforts were duly appreciated, the result being highly satisfactory.

Mr. Thomas Hope, of New York, a native of Langholm, who died a few days ago, has left the residue of his estate to found a hospital at Langholm, for the benefit of aged and infirm persons belonging to the district. The amount is estimated at 400,000 dollars. Mr. Hope was a merchant of New York. He left Langholm when a boy seventy years ago, and has only twice revisited his native land.

The heavy rains of Wednesday night have done considerable damage in Hertfordshire and Essex. The low-lying country round Safron Walden is submerged to an extent that has not been known for ninety years. The country from Bishop's Stortford to Bourne is under water, and the low-lying country round Dunmow is also flooded. Rain fell without ceasing for twelve hours, thoroughly soaking the corn stacks.

On Wednesday evening a grand concert, under the auspices of the International Musical Society, took place at St. James's Hall before a large and appreciative audience. The overture having been played by Miss Alice Randall, Handel's "Honour and Arms" was admirably rendered by Mr. Charles Newton. Madame Frith followed, her rich soprano being heard to great advantage in Puccini's "The Trilby." Two violin solos by Miss Lily Bernstein were highly appreciated.

An action brought by Mrs. Matilda Jonas against the Metropolitan District Railway Company to recover £20 damages for injuries has been tried in the Westminster County Court. As the lady was alighting at Gloucester-road Station the train moved on, and she was thrown down and so much hurt that she had to keep her room for a month. For the defence it was stated that the plaintiff either alighted before the train stopped or she slipped. The jury returned a verdict for the amount claimed.

Mr. M. Keith Frith and Mr. W. H. Sands, who acted as counsel for the unfortunate woman, Jessie Haxton, tried for the murder of her child at the last session of the Central Criminal Court, desire to call attention to a memorial which is being got up to the Home Secretary on her behalf. They point out that there were many painful features connected with the case, and state that several of the jurymen who heard the case have expressed their willingness to sign the memorial.

The woman was found guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to ten years' penal servitude.

The free library at Hammersmith already possesses 8,270 volumes.

President Carnot will start in the middle of April for Avignon, Marseille, Toulon, Nice, and Corsica. The Mediterranean Squadron will escort him on his voyage.

The ninth annual congress on internal diseases will be held in the Academy of Sciences, Vienna, from April 18th to 18th, under the presidency of Professor Nothnagel.

Mr. Parnell will, on Monday, give notice of the motion which he intends to propose for a select committee to inquire into the history and origin of the forged letters.

At an inquest held at Hove, a verdict of wilful murder was returned against Annie Brown, a domestic servant, whose newly-born child was found dead in a sack.

A telegram from Alton, Illinois, states that the Hon. D. B. Gilham was fatally shot on March 18th by a burglar, who succeeded in making his escape. Mr. Gilham took a prominent part in the politics of the State.

According to a St. Petersburg correspondent the Russian Government is very disconcerted by the indignation meetings held in England and America concerning the Siberian atrocities.

The Conservative agricultural members at a meeting on Wednesday decided unanimously to support the second reading of the Tithes Bill. Amendments will, however, be moved in committee.

Madame Tchekrikova, the writer of the letter to the Czar, is being treated well in prison at St. Petersburg. It is stated that the Czar has given orders not to prosecute her, but this order will not prevent the police from exiling her to Siberia, or at least to one of the interior provinces.

Immediate action will be taken by the telegraph clerks with regard to the suspension of the local society of the Postal Telegraph Clerks' Association at Cardiff. His only office, it is alleged, consisted in having forwarded to the Postmaster-general a copy of certain resolutions.

Immense quantities of snow have fallen in the Valais (Switzerland), and everywhere great anxiety is felt. At the well-known mountain village of Saas Grand avalanches are momentarily feared, and the peasants think of abandoning their homes.

Mr. Shaw-Lefevre has given notice to call attention to the growing net surplus revenue of the Post Office, and to move that, after providing for a fixed contribution to the Exchequer, the surplus revenue should in future be devoted to improvements in the postal service.

Mr. Edward Terry, who is at present travelling in India, dined yesterday at the Governor-general to meet the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, on the 2







## THE PRINCES OF WALES.

The Princess of Wales and one of her daughters, attended by Colonel Clarke and the lady-in-waiting, arrived at Windsor Castle on Thursday afternoon, and took luncheon with her Majesty. The Hon. A. Yorke met the Royal party at the Great Western Station.

## THE COUNTY COUNCIL AND THE GAS STRIKE.

At the last meeting of the London County Council, the Sanitary and Special Purposes Committee reported that the returns made by the council's gas examiners as to the quality of the gas supplied by the South Metropolitan Gas Company showed that in the months of December and January last there were forty-three cases of deficiency in the illuminating power of gas tested at the various official testing places in the company's district. The returns also showed that there were seven cases of insufficient pressure and three cases of excess of sulphur in the gas supplied. The company appealed to the chief gas examiner against those returns on the ground that the strike of the company's men threw the operations at the works into confusion and the chief gas examiner had certified that the deficient illuminating power, the deficient pressure, and the excess of sulphur reported to have occurred were occasioned by an unavoidable cause. Mr. Dickinson and Mr. Burns took exception to the action of the chief gas examiner in describing the strike as unavoidable; but upon the chairman pointing out that the decision of the officer in question, who was appointed by the Board of Trade, could not be appealed against, the report was approved.

## NOTICE.

To avoid loss of time and inconvenience, all communications on business matters should be addressed to the MANAGER, and not to the EDITOR.

## PERSONAL.

BACHELOR wishes to correspond with LADY of refinement and means. Address, Mr. Harvey, Post Office, Winchester.

WIDOWER, 32, 200 yearly. Wants domesticated healthy, educated young WIFE, medium height; with sufficient means to furnish house well. Unity, 4, Lodge, Circus Buildings.

MATRIMONY.—A Lady, respectable, educated, age 35, business habits, small estate, desires to acquire a gentleman of an honourable position. G. 7, Lordship-terrace, Highgate, Tottenham, N.

MATRIMONY.—A Lady wishes Correspondence with middle-aged gentleman in fair position. She has a small income, fond of home, affectionate disposition, domesticated, age 32. Address, Merton, care of A. Coleman, 211, High-street, Wandsworth.

ON March 17th, 1890, at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, ALFRED YOUNG, aged 46, late Coldstream Guards, son of the late Colour-sergeant Jonathan Young, Coldstream Guards.

## SPECIAL PREPARED RATES.

ADVERTISEMENTS RELATING TO Situations Wanted or Vacant, Houses or Apartments to Let or Wanted, Houses, &c., or Articles for Sale, Lost or Found, &c., &c.,

ARE CHARGED AT 1s. FOR 16 WORDS

ON PER LINE, OR EIGHT WORDS, AFTER.

These rates apply only to private or individual advertisements, and are not intended for advertisements of the above descriptions when sent by the advertiser in his trade or professional character. Prepayment is indispensable.

## SITUATIONS WANTED.

COOK, age 33, 2 years' character, wages £20.—M. E., Hetherington's, 67, St. John's Hill, Clapham.

A HOUSEKEEPER, or BAR, age 26, good character.—Miss H., Hetherington's, 67, St. John's Hill, Clapham.

YOUNG GIRL, 14, to assist mistress generally, 2 weekly.—Mildred, Hetherington's, 100, Queen's-road, Peckham.

GENERAL SERVANT, 16, fond of children, good reference, 2s. 6d. weekly.—Alice H., Hetherington's, 100, Queen's-road, Peckham.

GENERAL SERVANT, 17, tall, strong, 2 years' character, wages £19.—A. B., Hetherington's, 100, Queen's-road, Peckham.

A SUNDERLAND SERVANT, age 15, 5 months' good character, nice appearance, wages £2.—A. D., Hetherington's, 67, St. John's Hill, Clapham.

YOUNG GENERAL SERVANT, age 16, bright, neat girl, little plain cooking, wages £10.—M. E., Hetherington's, 170, Victoria-street, Belgrave.

COOK (GENERAL), age 29, very nice appearance, 5 months' personal character, wages £15 to £20.—W. E., Hetherington's, 170, Victoria-street, Belgrave.

NURSEMAID, age 47, respectable, neat, strong, fond of children, 18 months' personal character, wages £10.—P. E., Hetherington's, 116, Edgware-road, W.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 25, neat appearance, able to cook nicely, 5 months' character, wages £14.—Apply, Hetherington's, 308, Mile End-road.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 21, good plain cook, respectable, clean, 7 months' personal character, wages £14.—T. E., Hetherington's, 216, Edgware-road, W.

A GENERAL SERVANT, age 16, good character, wages £10.—Apply, Hetherington's, 67, St. John's Hill, Clapham.

NURSEMAID, age 15, respectable, intelligent girl, experienced, 15 months' character, wages £4.—J. E., Hetherington's, 100, Queen's-road, Peckham.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 19, country girl, bright, neat appearance, able to do plain cooking, 7 months' character, wages £12.—Apply, Nellie, Hetherington's, 308, Mile End-road.

YOUNG SERVANT, age 16, respectable, willing girl, well trained in housework, able to wait at table, 4 months' and 12 months' character, wages 2s. 6d. to 3s. weekly.—Apply, Elizabeth, Hetherington's, 308, Mile End-road.

PENSIONER, ex-Cavalry Sergeant, married, with first-class testimonials, desires employment as settler and gamekeeper, messenger, or any place of trust.—Address, Pensioner, 264, Chiswick-road, Chiswick, New Cross, London, S.E.

## SITUATIONS VACANT.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, about 17, 2 in family, good reference.—A. B., 261, High-road, Clapton.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, 21 to 25, wages £14 to £15.—25, Oakhurst Grove, Peckham, S.E.

PLAIN COOK, age 25 to 30, 2 in family, wages £14 to £15.—Mrs. W., Hetherington's, 170, Victoria-street, Belgrave.

PRESSERS, BASTERS, FINISHERS, for Town; none but good men's need apply.—21, Grove-st., Mile End-road.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted at once, only 2 in family, comfortable home.—Thomas, 148, Westminster Bridge-road.

NURSE for 2 children, wages £14; also General, wages £10.—Mrs. L., Hetherington's, 100, Queen's-road, Peckham.

NURSEMAID, 16 or 17, wages £14; also General, wages £10.—Mrs. L., Hetherington's, 100, Queen's-road, Peckham.

GOOD COOK for doctor's home, no family, 2 housemaids kept, wages £25.—Hetherington's, 100, Queen's-road, Peckham.

NURSE wanted, age about 25, for 1 child, good place, wages £16.—Mrs. D., Hetherington's, 16, Leonard-place, High-road, Kennington.

BOY TRADE.—Wanted, experienced PASTEFITTER, MACHINIST, and TABLE HANDS; good wages.—25, Hoxton-square, N.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, age 16, assistance given, no children, wages £10.—Mrs. C., Hetherington's, 67, St. John's Hill, Clapham.

HOUSEMAID wanted, age 18, neat, small family, wages £15.—Miss B., Hetherington's, 16, Leonard-place, High-road, Kennington.

YOUNG GENERAL SERVANT, age 16 to 18, small family, no cooking, wages £10.—Wages £15 to £16.—Hetherington's, 100, Queen's-road, Peckham.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 18 to 24, little cooking, no washing, 3 in family, wages £14.—Apply, Mrs. P., Hetherington's, 216, Edgware-road, W.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 19 to 25, 2 in family, no washing, wages £15.—Wages £16.—Mrs. A., Hetherington's, 216, Edgware-road, W.

PLAIN COOK wanted, age about 25, 2 in family, comfortable place, wages £20.—Mrs. T., Hetherington's, 16, Leonard-place, High-road, Kennington.

PLAIN COOK, age 25 to 30, 2 in family, 1 other servant, comfortable, wages £15 to £20.—Mrs. G., Hetherington's, 216, Edgware-road, W.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, age about 25, 2 in family, no washing, wages £15.—Mrs. G., Hetherington's, 16, Leonard-place, High-road, Kennington.

## SITUATIONS VACANT.—(CONTINUED).

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, age 17, must be fond of children, assistance given, £12.—Mrs. A., Hetherington's, 67, St. John's Hill, Clapham.

HOUSE and PARLOURMAID, age about 25, housemaid kept, wages £14.—Mrs. W., Hetherington's, 100, Queen's-road, Peckham.

GOOD PLAIN COOK, age 25 to 40, no housework, good place, wages £20.—Mrs. J., Hetherington's, 100, Queen's-road, Peckham.

UNDER-HOUSEMAID wanted, age about 17, small family, 3 servants kept, wages £12.—Mrs. W., Hetherington's, 16, Leonard-place, High-road, Kennington.

HOUSE and PARLOURMAID wanted, age about 25, small family, help given, wages £18.—Mrs. H., Hetherington's, 16, Leonard-place, High-road, Kennington.

UNDER-HOUSEMAID wanted, for business home, age 17 to 20, 3 other servants kept, wages £10 to £12.—Apply, Mrs. J. Hetherington's, 338, Mile End-road.

HOUSE and PARLOURMAID, age 20 to 25, good character, wages £12 to £15.—Mrs. C., Hetherington's, 170, Victoria-street, Belgrave.

YOUNG SERVANT wanted, to assist mistress, small family, no children or washing, wages 2s. 6d. to 3s. weekly.—Apply, Mrs. B., Hetherington's, 338, Mile End-road.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, age 19 to 25, able to do plain cooking, another servant kept, wages £14.—Apply, Mrs. D., Hetherington's, 216, Edgware-road, W.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, age about 25, to live on flat, small family, another kept, wages £12.—Mrs. J., Hetherington's, 16, Leonard-place, High-road, Kennington.

SEVERAL GOOD GENERAL SERVANTS wanted, very good situations, wages £10 to £12.—Apply, Hetherington's, 100, Queen's-road, Peckham.

GOOD PLAIN COOK wanted, for family of 7; 2 other housemaids kept; liberal wages to one with good personal character.—Apply to Mrs. Howard, Farnborough, Chislehurst.

COOK and HOUSE and PARLOURMAID wanted, £16 to £22, and GENERAL SERVANT to help, £14; 3 in family, no children, just taken lower house, good place.—Mrs. P., 20, Edgware-road, Hyde Park.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, 25 to 30, who thoroughly understands plain cooking and waiting at table, 1 child, nurse and housemaid kept, wages £14 all found.—Mrs. Gilling, 20, Osney-mead, Camden-road, N.W.

HOUSEMAID wanted, age 18 to 20, small family, wages £12 to £14.—Mrs. B., Hetherington's, 338, Mile End-road.

MONTHLY Family Aid to income by selling or celebrating, for sample, notices addressed envelope, best terms in the trade.—Write, Manager, 17, Aldersgate Chambers, E.C.

WEEKLY REALISED: sex and occupation no hindrance.—For sample, notices addressed envelope, best terms in the trade.—Write, Manager, 17, Aldersgate Chambers, E.C.

12S. 6d. A WEEK Salary offered either sex (able to write) everywhere. The work can be done evenings; salaries, &c. (to commence at once) sent for the Fabron, Men Lane, Chislehurst, North Chislehurst, London. Genuine.

OCCUPATION, Profitable and Pleasant.—15s. to 25s. weekly can be earned at home by operating a simple machine; cash or hire supplied.—P. S. Company, 67, Southwark-street, London, S.E.; or 25, Oxford-street, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th.

GOLD WATCH GIVEN as a Reward to all Female Servants who have remained in their situations two years. For particulars, see DOMESTIC HELP, published Weekly, One Penny, of all Booksellers, or of the Editor, P. W. Hetherington, 100, Queen's-road, Peckham, by post for 1d.

COLLECTORS and CANVASSERS wanted for the Royal London Friendly Society, established 1661; reserve funds, £200,000; increased benefits; prompt settlement of claims, and immediate benefit paid in case of death by accident; liberal terms to suitable men; European and respectable men should apply at once, by letter, to the Secretary, 105, Paul-street, Finsbury, E.C.

MEN, Youths, Boys, all classes, town, country, colonies, abroad; shop assistants, clerks, mechanics, engine drivers, butchers, bakers, grocers, coal-men, coal-brokers, valets, footmen, handymen, pagers, messengers, caretakers, attendants, heavy or light porters, club, hotel, coders, public assistants, carmen, gardeners, and farm hands wanted; in change or requiring employment, indoors or out, write or call situation Guide free; day time; hundreds suited.—Tanner, 100, Queen's-road, Peckham.

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## END OF THE COAL STRIKE. An Immediate Advance Granted. Terms of the Settlement.

The committee appointed by the Coal Owners' Federation met a deputation of miners at the Westminster Palace Hotel on Thursday to further consider the proposal of the men that an advance of 5 per cent. should be given on the basis of the 1887-88 scale. The conference of coal owners held on Monday decided not to accede to the request, but in order that some amicable settlement might be arrived at they suggested a meeting of owners and men. The colliery proprietors who attended were Mr. J. P. Ellis (South Yorkshire), Mr. A. Hewlett (Lancashire), Mr. Walker Davies (Derbyshire), Captain Harrison (Cannock Chase), Mr. A. Barnes, M.P. (Derbyshire), Mr. A. Chamberlain (Yorkshire), Mr. B. Bond (Staffordshire), Mr. T. D. Grimké (Lancashire), Mr. F. N. Ellis (Leam Valley), Mr. Smallman (Warwickshire), Mr. W. E. Garforth (West Yorkshire), and Mr. Mackell Peace and Mr. Parker Rhodes, secretaries. The miners' representatives were as follows:—Mr. B. Pickard, M.P. (chairman), Mr. E. Cowey (Yorkshire), Messrs. Samuel Woods, T. Aspinwall, E. Isherwood, and A. Longworth (Lancashire), Messrs. James Haslam and W. E. Harvey (Derbyshire), Mr. W. Bailey (Staffordshire), Mr. E. Edwards (North Staffordshire), Mr. A. Stanley (Cannock Chase), Mr. B. Dean (Pelsall, South Stafford), Mr. J. H. Whitehouse (Somerset), and Mr. T. Ashton (secretary). During the meeting the representatives of the men twice retired to consider proposals made by the owners, and both masters and men held preliminary private meetings at one o'clock to finally decide upon the policy to be pursued at the conference. After a discussion lasting two hours and a half the owners unanimously resolved to grant the men the advance of 5 per cent. now, and to give a further increase of 5 per cent. on the first week in August. Certain suggested arrangements for dealing with wages disputes in future were agreed upon in principle. This result, which brings the strike to a termination, was received with prolonged applause.

### THE CONDITION OF CRETE.

The Foreign Office has issued a volume of correspondence, extending over the past six months, on the subject of the condition of Crete. One of the latest documents is from Commander Brenton, of H.M.S. Fearless, who, on the 10th ult., after a visit to the Ionian Islands, wrote that on his return to Crete, after an absence of more than a month, he found that the political aspect of affairs in the island had undergone no very great change. The complaints of outrages by the troops in the interior, with one exception, seemed to have ceased. There appeared to be no indication that the Christian population had any present intention of taking to the mountains or otherwise rising in insurrection. It seemed likely that as Chakir Pacha obtained more time to carry out a firm and conciliatory course of government, the prospects of disturbances would gradually become less and less, although it would never be safe to say that in Crete all chance of an outbreak was entirely at an end.

### THE ENGINEERS' STRIKE EXTENDING.

The strike at the great engineering works on the south-east coast of England is extending. Not only are the men previously reported as being out showing determination to carry their point, but their ranks are to be reinforced as notices to cease work expire, and on Wednesday the situation was further complicated by the locking out of the labourers at the Elswick works of Messrs. Armstrong, Mitchell, and Co. At Elswick alone there are now 10,000 men idle, of whom about 8,000 are labourers. The firm state that their action with regard to the latter is solely due to lack of work, consequent on the strike of the engineers.

### THE LIVERPOOL DOCK STRIKE.

Work at the Liverpool Docks proceeded on Thursday under still more improved conditions. Some mass meetings were held and addressed by Mr. Cunningham Graham, M.P., and others, who alleged that the men were as resolute as ever not to return to work until their demands were conceded. There is, however, an evident disposition on the part of the men to resume work, and many have already done so. The majority of the foremen, seven hundred in number, are in favour of resuming and leaving the disputed points to arbitration. On Thursday afternoon a special and largely attended meeting of the council of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce took place at the Exchange Buildings, for the purpose of considering communications which had been received from the Employers' Labour Association and the Dock Labourers' Union in reply to inquiries made by the council with a view to promoting a conference between the shipowners and the men. Mr. H. Coke, president of the chamber, occupied the chair. The letters from the association and the union were considered and discussed, and in view of the statements they contained it was thought advisable to address to the Labourers' Union a further letter asking what course of action that body was willing to adopt with regard to specified points. The belief is that this communication may lead to a settlement of the dispute.

### ALLEGED SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOUR.

Charles Robertson, 41; William Smith, 29; and Frank Lockrose, 28, three fairly well-dressed men, were charged before Mr. Vaughan, at Bow-street Police Court on Thursday, with loitering on the premises of the Birkbeck Bank, suspected of an intention to commit a felony. Mr. Arthur Newton appeared for the prisoners. Fred Davies, 61, City policeman, said that about 1.30 on the previous afternoon he saw the prisoners in Lombard-street looking into Lloyd's Bank. After waiting there some time they walked away to the Mansion House and got on an omnibus. Witness and another officer followed them and saw them get down and walk to the Birkbeck Bank, which they entered. They went about from counter to counter, but transacted no business. They were taken into custody, when they denied all knowledge of each other. Robertson said he was at the bank to keep an appointment; Smith said he was going to open a deposit account, and Lockrose merely said, "I prefer your charges."—This being all the evidence against the prisoners, Mr. Vaughan said it was insufficient to support the case.—The officers said there was another charge of attempting to steal in the City Bank.—Mr. Vaughan held he could not take cognisance of that. The prisoners must be discharged.

### LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.

At a meeting of the board on Thursday, the Rev. J. R. Diggle presiding, a deputation, headed by Dr. Hill and Mrs. Fawcett, from the National Home Reading Union, presented a memorial urging the board to extend and consolidate the work of the union by providing a thorough system of recreative and instructive reading, and preventing the spread of pernicious literature. In the motion of the Rev. A. Jeppson, after some discussion, it was resolved to refer the memorial to the School Management and Evening Classes Committee for consideration and report.—Mr. Hart resumed the debate on the motion that steps be taken for the establishment of two day industrial schools for not exceeding a hundred children each, one on the south and other on the north side of the river.—An amendment was ultimately carried to the effect that the proposed resolution be referred back to the Industrial Schools Committee with instructions to bring up a full report giving information of the way in which day industrial schools were working in Liverpool and elsewhere, stating whether the committee purposed that they should be mixed or not, and including some idea of the approximate annual cost of such schools.

## AFFAIRS OF VISCOUNT DEERHURST.

At the Court of Bankruptcy on Thursday, a summary of the accounts with the official receiver's observations was issued in the case of Viscount Deerhurst, of South Kensington, the son of the Earl of Coventry. The gross liabilities are £25,130, of which, however, not more than £10,746 are expected to rank against assets estimated at £2550. According to the official receiver's observations, the debtor states that he is a lieutenant in the Army. His insolvency appears to have been occasioned by extravagance in living and losses by betting and gambling. A deficiency account has not been filed, but the debtor has undertaken to prepare one. The unsecured indebtedness includes a liability of £4,078 on joint accommodation bills (in respect of which the debtor states that the only consideration he received was a sum of £1,100), £1,232 for borrowed money, £1,462 for jewellery, fancy goods, &c., £402 for guns, cartridges, &c., £237 for betting, £944 for tailoring and hosiery, and £3,014 for cigars, tobacco, &c.

### MOONLIGHTING IN CO. LEITRIM.

A party of moonlighters on Thursday morning, between one and two o'clock, visited the house of Peter Duignan, of Benmaghbeg, near Cloone, and cautioned the inmate not to work for a farmer named Donnelly, who occupies an evicted farm. No injury was done. Duignan having given the required promise, the party then proceeded to visit other houses with the same object. The police have not yet made any arrests.

### SOUTHWARK SUBWAY EXTENSION.

A select committee of the House of Commons on Thursday passed the preamble of the bill authorising an extension of the City of London and Southwark Subway from Stockwell to Clapham. Clauses are to be inserted for the protection of the London, Chatham, and Dover bridge at Clapham.

### A WATCH CLUB TRANSACTION.

Cannon Ashmore, 58, a traveller, of no fixed abode, was charged at the Southwark Police Court on Thursday, on a warrant, with unlawfully and fraudulently obtaining two watches, value £10 10s, the property of Messrs. Kendal and Dent, watchmakers, Chesham, by false representations.—Prisoner was employed by the prosecutors as a canvasser in starting a watch club, and was entrusted with the watches in question, which he delivered to Albert Stewart, a railway clerk. He afterwards regained possession of them, saying the watches did not go well, and he would supply a clock in place of them. He was proved to have pawned the watches.—He was remanded for a week.

### THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE FORTH BRIDGE.

On the day before the opening of the Forth Bridge a letter was sent to the Prince of Wales at Dalmeny drawing his attention to the case of the widows and orphans of the men who lost their lives while employed in the building of the Forth Bridge. In reply, a letter has been from Sir Francis Knollys, who says:—"I am pleased by the Prince of Wales to acknowledge the receipt of your communication, and to inform you that he has caused inquiries to be made in regard to the matter upon which you have written to him. His royal highness finds that ten out of the fifty-six men who lost their lives during the construction of the Forth Bridge left no near relatives, and that compensation was in consequence paid to the widows and families of the remaining 46 men by the company and the Forth Bridge Working Men's Club amounted to £3,233, the contribution of the latter body to widows being a rule £30 in each case. Every care was taken to provide against the occurrence of accidents, and his royal highness is assured that, owing to the precautions adopted, which terminated fatally, remarkably small when one remembers that as many as 4,000 men at a time were often engaged on the works, and that the construction of the bridge extended over a period of seven years. I need hardly say that the prince sympathises most deeply with the unfortunate widows and children, and it would afford him very sincere happiness if it were in his power to alleviate in any way their sorrow, and if means could be devised for procuring their relief of a permanent character."

### REMARKABLE SALE OF AUTOGRAPHS.

Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge on Thursday commenced the sale of a large and remarkable collection of autograph letters and MSS., many of which were of great literary interest. The most notable lot was a folio of autograph letters, 23 16s. (Ellis); letter of Lord Beaconsfield to Count Gleichen, dated July 28th, 1889, signed "Beaconsfield," £2 12s. (Toovey); another signed "B. Disraeli," £1 19s. (J. Webster); letter of Henry Petty, the Infant Roscius, and others of actors, £3 3s. (Robinson); letter of Prince Bismarck, dated Berlin, 30th June, 1869, 16s. (Read); Bismarck's signature to a document, signed also by King William, afterwards Emperor of Germany, £1 15s. (Harker); letter of Napoleon Bonaparte to the Empress Josephine, £25 10s. (B. F. Stevens). Next were sold a series of proof sheets of various works by Robert Browning, all elegantly bound, and with autograph letters inlaid. The first was "Jocoseria," and in his letter Browning says, "The title is taken from the work of Melander (Schwartzmann)." This lot was put up at 10s. and sold for £20 (Sotheby). The second was "Feriabab," and the third was "Feriabab," and the fourth was "Feriabab," and the fifth was "Feriabab," and the sixth was "Feriabab," and the seventh was "Feriabab," and the eighth was "Feriabab," and the ninth was "Feriabab," and the tenth was "Feriabab," and the eleventh was "Feriabab," and the twelfth was "Feriabab," and the thirteenth was "Feriabab," and the fourteenth was "Feriabab," and the fifteenth was "Feriabab," and the sixteenth was "Feriabab," and the seventeenth was "Feriabab," and the eighteenth was "Feriabab," and the nineteenth was "Feriabab," and the twentieth was "Feriabab," and the twenty-first was "Feriabab," and the twenty-second was "Feriabab," and the twenty-third was "Feriabab," and the twenty-fourth was "Feriabab," and the twenty-fifth was "Feriabab," and the twenty-sixth was "Feriabab," and the twenty-seventh was "Feriabab," and the twenty-eighth was "Feriabab," and the twenty-ninth was "Feriabab," and the thirtieth was "Feriabab," and the 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